

1988
YEARBOOK

The Sporting News

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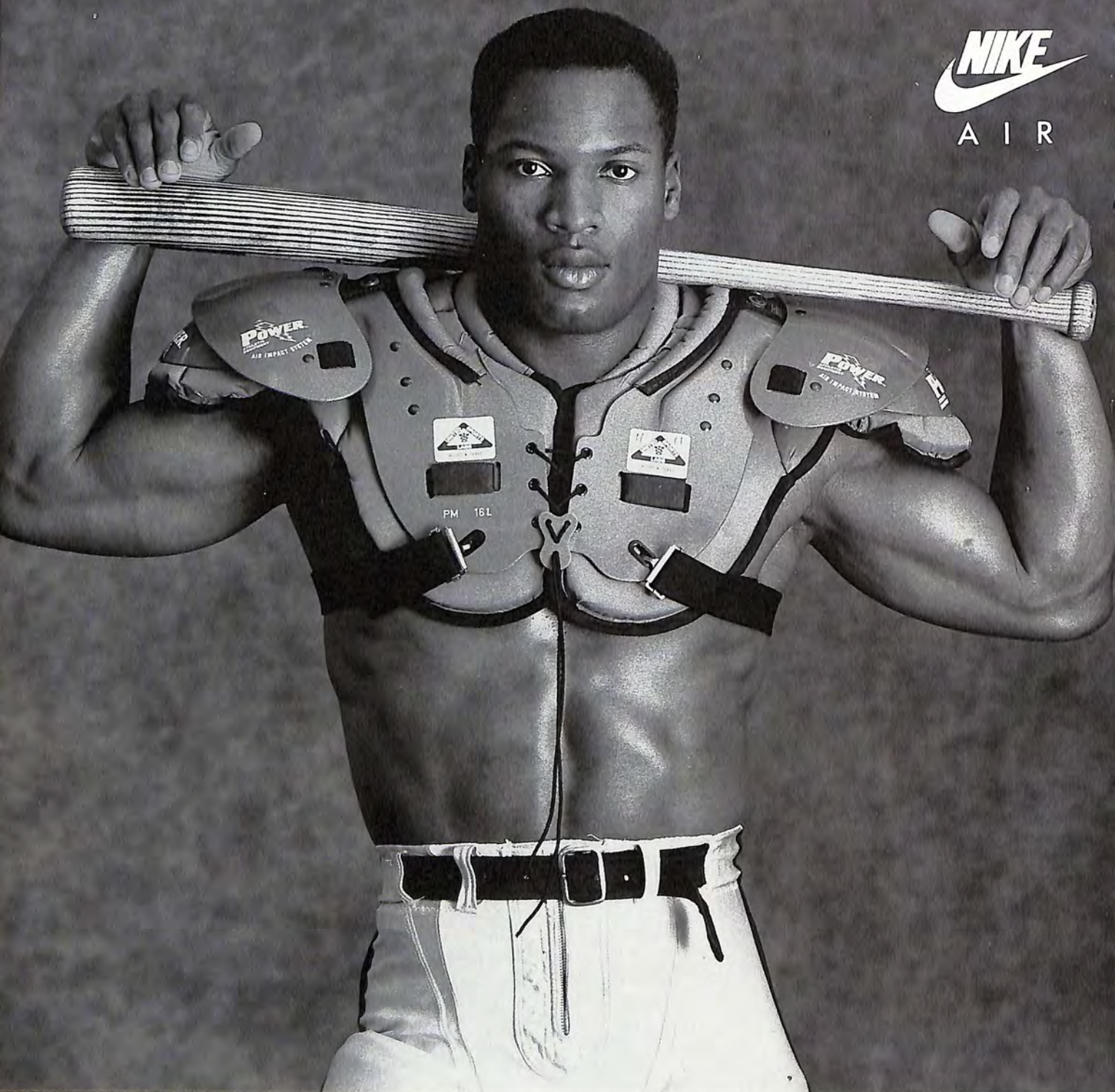
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The Sporting News

1988 College Football Yearbook

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The conference previews were written by sportswriters who cover the conferences on a regular basis. Their reports and the charts in this publication were prepared before preseason practices and may not reflect late changes and injuries.

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GLAD IN THE FIELD

Oklahoma and Nebraska football like nobody else has

By TOM SHATEL
Kansas City Star and Times

Charlie McBride remembers it was about six years ago. An athletic director at a Southwest Conference school burst into a Nebraska coaches' staff meeting and offered everybody in the room a job. Coach Tom Osborne, speaking for the group, politely declined.

"One time Tom was offered four big ones to go to Houston (Oilers)," said McBride, Nebraska's defensive coordinator. "Four million-plus. A lot of that didn't get out."

It would take more than just money—like an act of Congress—to get Osborne and his staff to pack up the vans and head out of Lincoln. Many of the desks in the Nebraska football offices have been inhabited by the same people for years. That stability is a sign of a strong program.

So is adaptability. Even proven winners have to keep up with the times.

To wit: On January 2, 1988, the Saturday morning after Miami (Fla.) defeated Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl for the national championship, the Sooners' wishbone was suddenly passe after almost 20 years. Miami defensive tackle Daniel Stubbs had rolled up the offense into a little ball and thrown it back at Oklahoma, and now members of the media were asking Hurricanes Coach Jimmy Johnson if maybe it was time for Oklahoma to toss it on the scrap heap.

At the same time as Johnson's press conference, Oklahoma Coach Barry Switzer was across town in Miami Beach, pondering the same question. He grabbed his offensive coordinator, Jim Donnan, by the arm and told him it was time to tinker. Add some play-action passes and sprint-out designs. Then, see you back here next year.

As usual. Seeing both Oklahoma and Nebraska suited up on New Year's Day is about as predictable as snow in Alaska. Glance at a newspaper around the holidays—last year, next year, any year—and you'll find both schools in their familiar perches. In the Top 10. In a major bowl. Dominating college football like nobody else has in the last two decades. Using the same methods, over and over, to do

Barry
Switzer

NTS HEIR ELD

have dominated college in the last two decades

one thing better than anybody, over and over.

Win, win and win some more.

"They are the IBMs of college football," said Kansas State Coach Stan Parrish, who, by comparison, runs the corner copy store.

Call them the top two programs in the country, bar none.

There are those who would argue, of course. Penn State's Joe Paterno, Michigan's Bo Schembechler and Georgia's Vince Dooley have built outstanding programs, and Notre Dame, Southern California, Alabama and Ohio State are considered perennial powerhouses. But all of these schools have had occasional slack periods. Not so with the Big Two of the Big Eight Conference. Except for three consecutive years in the early '80s when the Sooners lost the ghastly total of four games each season and briefly fell from grace, both Oklahoma and Nebraska have finished in the Top 10 of either the Associated Press or United Press International poll without fail since 1971, two years before Switzer and Osborne took control of their respective programs. Try naming any other school that can match such a roll.

Pride in their football teams is so great that some fans from Nebraska and Oklahoma refuse to settle for a spot in the top two. Nebraskans point out that it is the Cornhuskers, not their rivals to the south, who have finished in the AP or UPI Top 10 for 18 straight years, gone to 19 straight bowl games and enjoyed 19 consecutive seasons with at least nine victories. Oklahoma, meanwhile, missed the final Top 10 from 1981-83, needing a Sun Bowl triumph to salvage a seven-victory season in '81 and not going to a bowl game at all in '83.

Oklahomans laugh and say they own the rights to Nebraskans, having won 12 of the last 16 meetings. Oh, and yes, in the last two decades, the Sooners lead in national championships, three to two, with the score reading Barry Switzer 3, Tom Osborne 0. Switzer's teams won it all in '74, '75 and '85, while Nebraska's only national crowns came under Bob Devaney in '70 and '71.

As for each coach's record, they're running neck and neck. With a 148-26-4 career mark (.843 winning percentage), Switzer is the nation's winningest active coach. He is followed closely by Paterno

Continued

**Tom
Osborne**

GIANTS

(207-48-2) and Osborne (147-34-2), who are virtually tied at .809.

Is one program better than the other? Obviously, it's a question of perspective. The only indisputable point is that since Switzer and Osborne rose to their positions together in 1973, nobody—not Bo, Joe or Touchdown Jesus—has been as consistently good.

"I don't think there's any question about it," Switzer said. "Over a period of time, we are 1 and 2 over the last 15 years. We switch back and forth. They're perennial giants. Both of us have been on top longer than most.

"Both do two things: They believe defenses win. Oklahoma and Nebraska have great defensive teams. And both are great rushing teams. Oklahoma and Nebraska are the greatest rush offenses in college football history. No two teams in college football have ever approached what Oklahoma and Nebraska have rushed for. That philosophy has a lot to do with winning."

Available statistics support Switzer's contentions. Entering last season, Oklahoma and Nebraska were the top two Division I-A teams in rushing offense and scoring offense over the previous 25 years, and Nebraska ranked first, Oklahoma third in total offense over that stretch. In total defense, Nebraska was first, Oklahoma seventh. Both teams kept the tradition alive in 1987; Oklahoma led the major colleges in rushing offense, total offense, scoring offense and total defense, while Nebraska ranked third, second, third and eighth in those respective categories.

Best in the business? It's hard to say otherwise.

"It depends on what you look for," Osborne said. "We haven't won a national championship, but in terms of victories and consistency, Nebraska's been as good as anybody. We haven't been a yo-yo team, going 6-5 one year, 10-1 the next. Other than Penn State, we are the top two."

They are so good, so often, that they are taken for granted. Each has been named national Coach of the Year a time or two by somebody, but not nearly as often as their flashy records would seem to demand.

That may be a result of the fact that both coaches inherited strong programs—Osborne as Devaney's hand-picked successor, Switzer a decade removed from Bud Wilkinson, who had won three national championships during a 17-year reign. The implication is that they have just pushed a few buttons, made some great hires and put their feet up on the desk to watch.

"I don't buy that," Paterno said. "I don't think their programs would be where they are today if Tom and Barry had not gotten personally involved in everything. The tradition helps Barry and Tom do their jobs. But you would be making a

mistake to say it just happens. If they didn't work as hard as they do in recruiting, they wouldn't be where they are."

So maybe the "IBMs of college football" moniker isn't completely on target. There's nothing automatic about gridiron success. But in the sense that Nebraska and Oklahoma are the giants in their field, with the best resources, support and results year after year, the label fits. Switzer and Osborne are the chairmen of their boards, consistently staying ahead of the competition for 15 years.

"They have the most resources, the



Nebraska turns 180-pound walk-ons into Outland Trophy winners through weight training.

most commitment, the most tradition," Parrish said. "Those three things really make it a tough thing to beat. They both have an insatiable drive toward the national championship, not just the conference championship. They're not easily satisfied, and that separates them."

Continuity is their common thread. Both schools have sold out every home game for years. Neither Switzer nor Osborne has been cited by the NCAA for major recruiting violations, although Oklahoma is under NCAA investigation. Each coach has turned down numerous offers from both pro and college teams to stay put. Each coach has several assistants who have been with him for more than 10 years. The routines and playbooks never change.

"I can remember before one spring practice where (former Sooners assistant coach) Galen Hall pulled out the schedule," said Dean Blevins, an Oklahoma quarterback from 1974-77 who now is a broadcaster for the Tulsa cable company that covers Sooner sports. "It was the same exact thing they had done 10 years before. Even though a couple things may change in the offense, they are doing basically the same exact thing they were 20

years ago.

"I think IBM is a good analogy. But the interesting thing about them is that they show that it can be done in more ways than one."

★ ★ ★

The Lazy K Ranch and Stalag 13.

That's how one Big Eight beat writer refers to Oklahoma and Nebraska. It's not far off-base.

In Norman, the down-home Switzer is a fun socialite who lets his players throw Frisbees the day before a game. Up in Lincoln, Osborne teaches drop-back steps on weekdays and Sunday School on the weekend. While he and his players are accessible to the media, there is an air of discipline and righteousness that hangs in the Husker football complex.

Amazingly, these two giants coexist in the same conference, separated only by the state of Kansas, with different philosophies: Oklahoma is the super recruiter that attracts blue-chippers like a magnet; Nebraska is the blue-collar program that loads 180-pound walk-ons onto a conveyor belt that spits out an Outland Trophy winner five years later.

And while that generalization was more true in the 1970s—hey, Mike Rozier and Irving Fryar aren't chopped liver—1988 finds Oklahoma still out-recruiting Nebraska and Osborne still expanding his weight room—it will be a national record 35,900 square feet by next year—to make room for more walk-ons.

Nebraska has the most phenomenal walk-on program in the country, with about 50 young hopefuls volunteering for duty each year. Most of these players belong at Nebraska Wesleyan, and the group is weeded down each spring. In the fall, Osborne has saved six to eight scholarships for those who are good enough. The most famous one to be good enough was running back Jarvis Redwine, who in 1979 left a construction job in Oregon to give the Huskers' walk-on program a try.


This system is the supplement to a program that, unlike Oklahoma, is not close enough to recruit Texas—or anywhere, for that matter.

"It started with Coach Devaney in the '60s, and it has been a very important part of our program," Osborne said. "A lot of times they (the walk-ons) are the best player in a small town in Nebraska who may get offers to go to a small town, but they have always wanted to give it a try here.

"It really helps us with our depth. We have a freshman program that, I'm not sure, may be the only one left in the country. They (the walk-ons) go right onto the scout team a lot of times and give our freshmen a chance to develop on the freshman squad."

Consequently, Nebraska's attrition rate is lower than most because freshmen get to play games (against junior colleges) and find themselves academically before they redshirt as sophomores. It's a good deal for the walk-ons, too; Osborne said about 25 may travel with the team, with

Continued



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GIANTS

anywhere from seven to nine eventually starting.

"They take up the slack," McBride said. "We lose very few scholarship players because they are not getting killed on the scout team their first year. The walk-ons allow us to get more repetitions in practice."

And though McBride complains that the Huskers' quality depth isn't what it used to be, things like the scholarship limit (95 per Division I-A school) and Proposition 48 won't take a big bite out of Nebraska's roster, which typically has 130 players on a given year.

"When all these numbers (scholarship) changed, Nebraska had to channel down, not up," said Iowa State Coach Jim Walden, an assistant at Nebraska in the early '70s. "Where money could help, legally, they had it. If we wanted 120 guys, that's what we had when I was there."

A formula then developed under Osborne: Recruit skill players from New Jersey to San Diego and fill in around them with the projects from the weight room. Nebraska's lifeblood—its offensive line—never skips a beat because after a fourth- or fifth-year senior has graduated, another one who has pumped iron and mastered the system is on the way.

The system was born in 1969, when Boyd Epley, a Nebraska pole vaulter, showed some football players some weight exercises to rehabilitate injuries. Osborne, then an assistant coach, noted that Epley's suggestions worked. He suggested that Epley stay on after graduation to start a strength program.

Eighteen years later, Epley is the father of college strength and conditioning. He has a 13,000-square-foot palace and dozens of disciples in the field and All-Americas on the field to prove it.

"The first year they said Nebraska was watering its lawn and had green players in the fall, while other teams let their players go stale," Epley said. "They took notice when we were beating Notre Dame, 40-6, and Alabama, 38-6, for the national championship. It (conditioning) gives us depth. I'm not sure Nebraska has as much talent as others, but in terms of depth, we keep coming at you in waves."

Epley said Nebraska is able to stay ahead of other programs that have copied his plan because he has the staff (three assistants) to see that all 130 athletes grow up big and strong. The common accusation, of course, is that Nebraska players take steroids with their milk.

"We hear that in recruiting all the time," Epley said. "A recruiter will say if your son goes to Nebraska, they will use steroids. That is absolutely not true. We have had a couple kids test positive in the five years of our testing program, which was before anybody did it (test). If any of my staff or myself is ever shown to have recommended steroids, I'll resign."



Both coaches inherited strong programs, Switzer a decade removed from legendary Bud Wilkinson...

Epley could resign and get hired anywhere he wanted, but he passes up numerous offers because of the unprecedented support the Huskers' strength program receives. For instance, Epley let it be known a few years ago that the program needed money, and 1,000 Husker fans responded by forming the Husker Power Club, with membership costing \$40 a person. Not even Barry Switzer could pull him away when he called to woo Epley in 1979.

"I told him my blood was red, but not Sooner red," Epley said.

★ ★ ★

Epley was one of the few Switzer targets who got away. Since he arrived in Norman as offensive line coach for Jim Mackenzie in 1966, Switzer has helped recruit more than 40 All-Americans. Oklahoma may be stronger than you think and Nebraska may be faster, but the cliché is true: Recruiting is to Oklahoma what weight training is to Nebraska.

And nobody recruits better than Switzer.

"Barry might be the best one on one, in the house, I've ever seen," Charlie Lee, a former University of Texas recruiter, said a few years ago. "He fits in on whatever's going on in the house. If Barry Switzer wants a guy, there ain't much you can do. When they said Oklahoma was coming, I said, 'It's over. Bye.' He attracts the top black athletes and he has outstanding rapport with his kids."

And he genuinely enjoys recruiting.

"Every Sunday morning he will walk into our staff meeting and say, 'Where do I need to be?' and we tell him," said Scott Hill, Oklahoma's recruiting coordinator. "He still loves it. He understands it's what got him where he is. But he also loves to get out of the office and be around the coaches."

Proposition 48 was an unwelcome sight

at Oklahoma, but Switzer has shown a propensity to go after the gambles and live with the results. Oklahoma has typically redshirted freshmen anyway, except when Switzer's recruiting was so good they couldn't wait. But Hill said Oklahoma's plan is to have "two or three" good players at every position, redshirt newcomers and then recruit each year to fill needs down the road.

"There are only six schools in the country that can do that," Hill said.

The Sooners don't make many mistakes each February. The last time they did, they went 7-4-1, 8-4 and 8-4 from 1981-83 and Switzer fell out of favor.

"We had so much success in the '70s, some of our guys may have taken a little for granted," assistant head coach Merv Johnson said. "We lost players for various reasons. We needed a character change—go back to recruiting the type of kid we had been."

Blevins remembers the blame being placed on Oklahoma going for more "out-of-state" players—meaning anyone not from Oklahoma or Texas. All Switzer did was go back to the basics—and Texas and Arkansas—to recruit the class that won the 1985 national title, lost it last year and suffered only three defeats in three years—all to Miami.

"They have recruiting down to an art," Blevins said. "It's their Number 1 priority, although I think some schools are catching up. It's like the Dallas Cowboys, who for years were ahead of everyone else in draft techniques. Oklahoma is way out in front of recruiting techniques and methods."

"The technique is Barry Switzer's personality. They define what players they want; with a veer offense, you might look at 100 quarterbacks, but with a wishbone, you can narrow it to five who can play for you. Same with running backs. Then they



... and Osborne the hand-picked successor to Bob Devaney, who led Nebraska to two national crowns.



take the tradition of Oklahoma and keep pounding and pounding."

★ ★ ★

The material incentives for Oklahoma and Nebraska assistants to remain with Barry and Tom? In general, a salary that may be a tad higher than the average college assistant's, a car and a country club membership. Which is to say not much, comparatively speaking, for some of the most pressure-packed and high-profile assistant's jobs in college football.

"You get a car, but you pay about \$3,000 in taxes on that," McBride said. "And I'm not a golfer."

The rewards are winning and security, which go hand in hand at Oklahoma and Nebraska.

Osborne has five coaches who have been with him a decade or longer: linebackers coach John Melton (entering his 27th year at Nebraska), secondary coach George Darlington (16th), McBride (12th), running backs coach Frank Solich (10th) and offensive line coach Milt Tenopir (15th). Off-campus recruiter Jack Pierce has been with Osborne for 10 years. Osborne looks for continuity in his young assistants, too. Third-year defensive ends coach Tony Samuel is a former Nebraska defensive end. Shane Thorell, the team's junior varsity and freshman coach, is a former Husker walk-on.

Switzer also has seen the same familiar faces in meeting rooms for more than a decade: secondary coach Bobby Proctor (16th year), defensive coordinator Gary Gibbs (14th), defensive line coach Lucious Selmon (13th), Hill (12th), receivers coach Mike Jones (11th), offensive line coach Charley North (10th) and Johnson (10th).

These are the faceless names who have shunned offers from pro and college teams alike to keep a good thing going.

"Coaches have an aversion to leaving winning," Iowa State's Walden said. "If

you are an assistant at Nebraska, where is he going to go from there? If you're an assistant, you say: 'Where am I? My objective is to be one of two things: Either to be damn comfortable and winning and not be a threat to lose my job, or make a move to make myself better and be a head coach.' Now, a lot of people say staying at a winning program is just as good as taking a chance and getting fired and still not getting to be a head coach."

A few Sooner and Husker assistants have flown the coop and rolled the dice. Warren Powers left Osborne's staff in 1977 to become head coach at Washington State and later Missouri, where he was fired in 1984. He's not coaching anywhere now. But there is Galen Hall, who left Switzer's staff as offensive coordinator to become an assistant at Florida, where he now is going strong as head coach. Hall's replacement was Mack Brown, who left after a year to become head coach at Tulane and now is at North Carolina. Brown's replacement, Jim Donnan, has aspirations of being a head coach soon.

But those are the exceptions. Most of the assistants aren't going anywhere.

"The economy here is not good, and that has an effect," Oklahoma's Johnson said. "If you try to sell your house now, you take a beating. But there is no assistant's job that's better. It's kind of hard to give up the thrill and excitement of winning."

Coaching continuity is the backbone of both programs. Osborne estimated that every time an assistant leaves, half a dozen recruits may go with him; lose two or three coaches at once and at least half of the recruiting class is in peril. The head coach leaving, of course, can be disastrous. Considering that the Big Eight has had 18 head coaching changes since the Tom and Barry show hit the road, Nebraska and Oklahoma have enjoyed quite

an advantage.

Osborne and Switzer do their best to keep their assistants happy. In 1981, after supporters raised \$115,000 for him, Osborne divied it up and took the same \$10,000 share as his assistants; he also gives assistants a cut from his shoe contract and summer camps.

Mostly, Osborne and Switzer take the heat and delegate a lot of authority, which is important to people like McBride, who was the subject of an editorial in the school paper that wanted him fired last January.

"He lets you coach," McBride said. "He will never say, 'Don't do that defense anymore.' He may not always agree with it, but he won't say it because if you don't believe in what your (assistant) is doing, the kids aren't, either."

★ ★ ★

When Switzer and Osborne met in Dallas last March to be photographed for *The Sporting News*, history was made: It was the first time they had posed together for the cover of a magazine, and perhaps for anything.

But that's not surprising. Although their relationship is friendly enough—and built on respect—these two have no reason to run into each other unless it's in the living room of a prospect or at a football game in Lincoln or Norman in late November.

"We have a mutual respect, yet we don't meet socially," Osborne said. "Obviously, we are different people. We may call each other at times during the season to talk about upcoming NCAA legislation or rules. But that's it. I think one year we ran into each other on a Nike trip and we sat down and chatted.

"We talked about fishing."

They will go down as the odd couple on the list of all-time great coaches. Osborne, a native of Hastings, Neb., is a devout Christian who once thought about entering the ministry; Switzer, a native of Crossett, Ark., is the son of a bootlegger, and his sometimes-controversial private life is quite public in Oklahoma.

Besides having different life styles, they choose different ways to feed the monsters created by Bud and Bob. Both were instrumental in installing the offenses that have been the cornerstones of tremendous rushing games—the wishbone at Oklahoma, the I-formation at Nebraska.

Both systems work. It was indeed appropriate that both Switzer and Osborne broke Wilkinson's record as the winningest Big Eight coach in history on the same afternoon last fall. What's left is a race toward immortality neither wants to quit.

"Tom's from Nebraska and he will always be here," McBride said. "He bought himself a little trout pond. He's not a money guy."

He may be in the state of Nebraska, where his recently raised salary of \$97,900 pushed him above Chancellor Martin Massengale and some \$40,000 above Gov. Kay Orr. But nationally, Osborne's salary doesn't compare. He turned down a chance to interview at Ohio State, which

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Switzer is unsurpassed by his peers when it comes to recruiting.

GIANTS

later gave John Cooper a \$338,000 total package, including \$240,000 for radio-TV. Osborne, whose TV market is one of the smallest, makes less than \$200,000, all sources considered.

His name still comes up now and then, but not as much, because Osborne won't leave. The closest he came was after the 1978 season, when Colorado almost wooed him. But when Osborne's critics sensed that he wasn't just sightseeing in the Rockies, they stopped taking him for granted, formed a Tom Osborne fan club and started to realize that while Devaney won a pair of national championships, Osborne looked pretty sharp when stacked against most everybody else. Though the critics won't stop throwing darts until Osborne wins a national title, polls show he is the most popular public figure in the state.

"I went out and looked at it," Osborne said of the Colorado job, which, ironically, went to Chuck Fairbanks, Switzer's immediate predecessor at Oklahoma. "I found that this almost never-ending scrutiny here really in some ways is our strength. At Colorado, they've never had it. There are the Broncos, the mountains, Colorado State, Air Force.

"I have been able to keep a good perspective here because I am a fairly spiritual person. That has been helpful in keeping an equilibrium. And my wife has been a good influence because she doesn't take football very seriously."

Osborne admits that one of the fires

that keeps him going is that he still loves to X and O. He is the team's offensive coordinator and one of the few college coaches who calls all the plays on the sidelines. Very good plays.

"I kind of compare him to Tom Landry," said former Nebraska center Dave Rimington, the Outland Trophy winner in 1981 and '82. "He's very smart and intelligent. He's calm, collected, and he knows what he's doing. He knows the game inside and out. A lot of coaches are like kings; you put them up there, but they really don't do much. He really does a lot."

Switzer does every bit as much, in different ways. On a given day during game week, Switzer may be having a heart-to-heart with Jamelle Holieway while his coaches are in the film room.

"I look at him as a president of a corporation," Donnan said. "He checks in with us to see what we are doing with the game plan. He spends a lot of time motivating players because if you wait to do that on Saturday, you won't win many games. He is looking at kids, seeing where they fit into the future, seeing what we need to do. The constant thing about him is creating a morale system around him, making sure everybody feels good about themselves and they have a specific role. When you have a lot of great players, that's important to have."

"A lot of people typecast coaches as geniuses. He's just the most successful coach in America. I look at him as the prototype to winning."

Like Osborne, though, Switzer also is a survivor. His low-water mark came from 1979-83, a period in which a bulk of his staff resigned under personal circum-

stances; star tailback Marcus Dupree left school; Switzer's marriage ended in divorce; he was sued by the Securities and Exchange Commission for his alleged involvement in insider trading (a case that was dismissed), and the largest newspaper in the state called for him to be fired in the wake of the three consecutive four-loss seasons.

All of which was par for the course for a guy who had grown up in poverty in a ramshackle house that had no phone and, until he was in high school, no electricity. He had a father who went to prison for bootlegging and was later murdered, and a mother who committed suicide while he was in another room in the house. There is no question that he has traveled a rough road to success, and that success continues, in part, because he uses his past as a recruiting tool.

"My players know my story," said Switzer, who is unsurpassed by his peers when it comes to recruiting black athletes, many of whom come from underprivileged backgrounds. "So when they come in here and talk to me about problems they think they have, tell me how tough it is, they know by the time I get through that there ain't no way they had it tougher than I had it. I have the leverage of being able to talk about how to compete, overcome, achieve and win and not give up."

Switzer also has diverted much of the off-the-field focus back on his teams by winning the last four Big Eight titles as well as his third national title in 1985. And though he still is in search of a good time, his close friends say he has mellowed.

"He is from a small town, and that has helped him turn down the bright lights,"



Osborne admits that one of the fires that keeps him going is that he still loves to X and O.

Blevins said. "Although he enjoys the fast lane, he is basically a simple guy. He can go to New York whenever he wants and see whoever he wants, or go out to eat in Norman and not be hounded. He still loves coaching kids. He's 50 going on 20."

Blevins noted a physical Switzer had done in March.

"Even though he rarely works out and has been known to sip a cocktail, he was given a clean bill of health," Blevins said. "The doctor said he had the body of a 35-year-old."

Somehow, coaching the Sooners is keeping Switzer young.

"I like my job," he said. "Where do you go from Oklahoma and Nebraska? I mean, anything on the collegiate level is sideways. I don't think there's anywhere to go, unless you want to go to professional football, and I think Nebraska and Oklahoma are better than 20 of the professional jobs."

★ ★ ★

Even after the Sooners' decisive loss to Miami in the Orange Bowl, Switzer didn't panic. He knew his offense needed some fine-tuning, but that didn't mean he had to toss the wishbone out the window.

"Miami shuts down split backs, I-forma-tion, wishbone," said Switzer, who realized his team was simply outplayed. "Good defensive teams handle anything. The wishbone is a foreign, bastard-type offense, whereas I's, split backs are conventional. They aren't the unusual look. They are the prevalent offense. When the wishbone gets stuck, why does it happen? Because the other team has good ball players!"

Switzer realized the day after the loss to Miami that he should have passed more,

but with freshman quarterback Charles Thompson subbing for Holieway and the memory of turnover problems in previous losses to Miami still fresh in his mind, he played it safe. This year he is instituting more sprint-out, play-action passes to spring the big play and not force third-and-longs.

Staying ahead—that's the key.

"You can't stand still," said Switzer, who helped teach the wishbone to Oklahoma players as an assistant coach under Fairbanks. "You've got to stay ahead, not only in football, but in the academic area, in the capital improvement area. It's like any other profession—medical, accounting, lawyers. Once they get established practices, laws change, taxes change, people have to stay ahead. Oklahoma is the same way. You have to stay abreast of everything and move forward."

The Huskers' and Sooners' edge is the wisdom and wit of two coaches who have steered the programs through two decades of scholarship limits, Title IX and now Proposition 48. They know how to play the game, whether it be handling alumni heat, discouraged athletes or over-zealous agents.

The latter has bothered Osborne, but not enough to chase him to the pros.

"I'm not really attracted to the pro game," Osborne said. "I don't like contract disputes and some of the other things that go on there. I don't like the pro game."

"I don't like the agent problem, and Proposition 48 has made it tougher. We live in a goldfish bowl here, where if an athlete doesn't show up for a traffic ticket, it's on the front page."

Some Nebraskans had the athletic

director's chair ready for Osborne years ago—but neither he, nor the ageless Devaney, appears ready for that.

"I still love coaching," he said, "and I have no ambition to be athletic director. It's still a fun challenge."

Ditto for Switzer, who would like to continue chasing Bear Bryant (five national titles) for another 15 to 20 years. To think that 15 years ago, Switzer and Osborne just hoped they didn't screw things up.

"I planned on winning, but I didn't think about how long I'd be here," Switzer said. "I have no idea right now how long I'll be here. I feel I could go another 15 years. What else am I going to do? Be a sports-writer (laughing)? I'd like to win more national championships than anyone else, but that happens when you least expect it. My goal is to continue to do what I enjoy, and that's do what I do right now."

All of which is bad news for those in the Big Eight, the conference that parity forgot. Perhaps the bottom line on Oklahoma and Nebraska, one of which has either won outright or shared every Big Eight title since 1961, is that other conference coaches are trying to coax their fans to stop using them as the measuring stick. They're out of reach.

"Stop asking me about Oklahoma and Nebraska," Walden said. "I don't know who they are. I don't want to know who they are. I wish they were not on my schedule. I don't want to be compared with that. I don't want to be asked, 'When do you think you can get to the Orange Bowl?' What a stupid question."

"Let me ask you: When does anyone in the nation think they can get their program as good as Oklahoma and Nebraska?" ■

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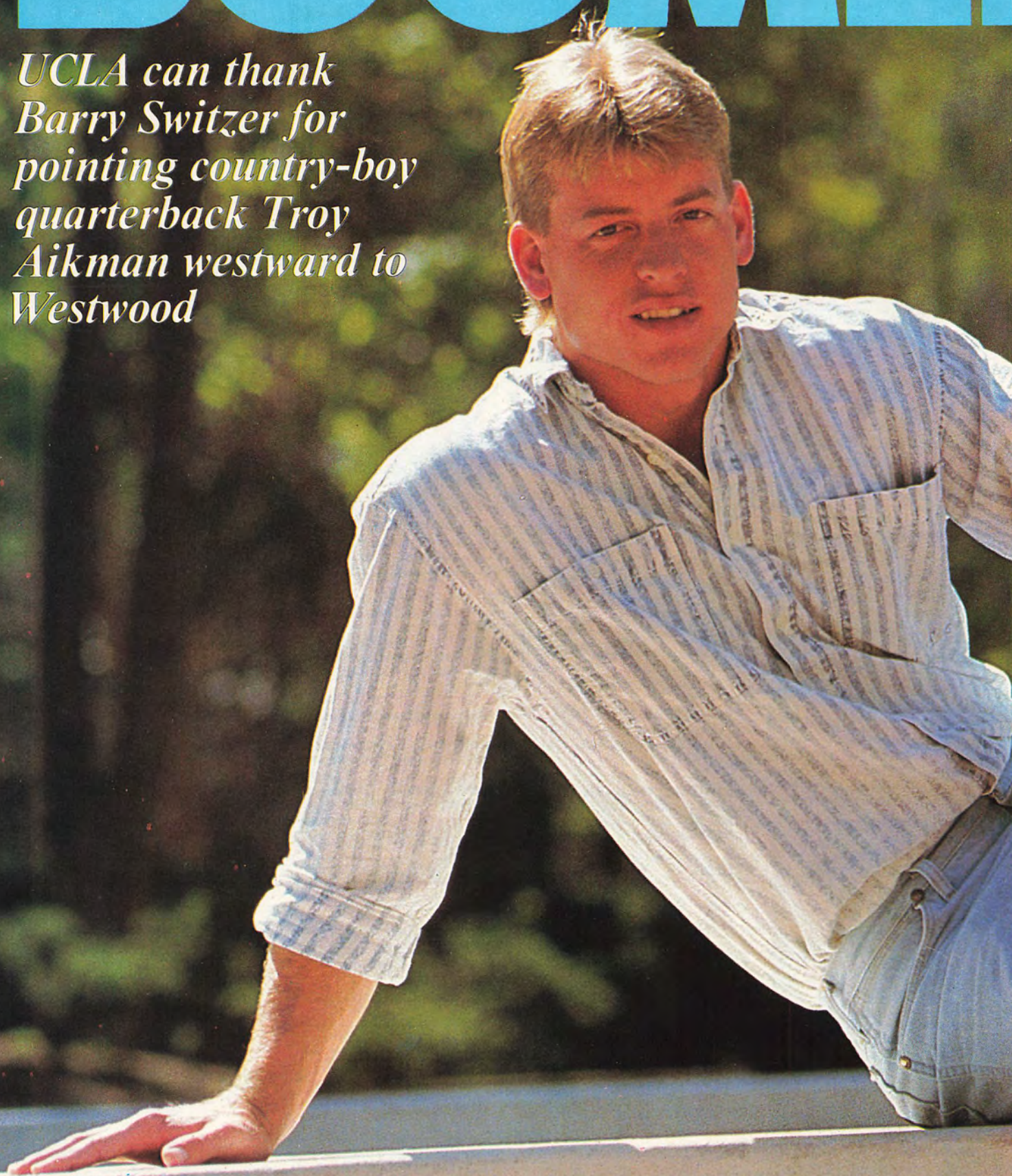
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Fresno St.	ABC	FGH	R V
Georgetown	ABCDEFGH		STUUVWX
Georgia	ABCDEFGH	J	LMNPOQRSTUUVWX
Georgia Tech	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPO	R	STUUVWX
Grambling	ABC	G	
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Idaho	ABC	FGH	T
Illinois	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTU		
Indiana	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
Iowa	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
Iowa St.	ABC	FGHJKLMNPOQRSTU	
Kansas	ABCDEFGH		RSTUUVWX
Kansas St.	ABC	FGH	P STUV
Kentucky	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
Louisiana St.	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
Louisville	ABCDEFGH	J	LMNO RSTUUVWX
Maine	AB	DEFG	V
Marquette	ABC	FGH	T V
Maryland	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTU		
Memphis St.	ABCDEFGH	J	KL MNOPQ ST V
Miami, Fla.	ABCDEFGH		RSTUUVWX
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Mississippi	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
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Montana St.	ABC	FG	LMNO
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Nebraska	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
New Mexico	ABC	FGH	T
N. Carolina	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPO	R	STUUVWX
N. Carolina St.	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQR	TUVWX	
N. Dakota	ABC	FGH	T
Northwestern	ABC	FGH	J LMNO STU
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Oklahoma	ABCDEFGH		RSTUUVWX
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Purdue	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPO	R	STUUVWX
Rutgers	ABC	GH	LMNO T
San Diego St.	ABCDEFGH	J	KL MNOPQ STUV
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S. Carolina	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
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Temple	ABC	FGH	T
Tennessee	ABCDEFGHJKLMNPOQRSTUUVWX		
Texas	ABCDEFGH	J	KL MNOPQ RSTUUVWX
Texas A&M	ABCDEFGH		QRSTUUVWX
TCU	ABCDEFGH		ST V
Texas Tech	ABCDEFGH		ST V
Tulane	ABC	GH	J LMNO Q T
UCLA	ABCDEFGH	J	LMNO QRSTU
UNLV	ABCDEFGH		STUUVWX
USC	ABCDE	GH	J LMNO RSTU
Utah	ABCDEFGH	J	LMNO T
Utah St.	ABC	FGH	J KL MNOPQ T
Vanderbilt	ABCDEFGH	J	LMNO TUV
Villanova	ABCDEFGH	J	TU WX
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BOOMER

*UCLA can thank
Barry Switzer for
pointing country-boy
quarterback Troy
Aikman westward to
Westwood*



R BRUIN

By TRACY DODDS
Los Angeles Times

In 1986, Troy Aikman packed up his Chevy Blazer and left Norman, Okla., for one simple reason: A big, tall, strong-armed quarterback like him had no business wasting his talent as a backup in the wishbone. He headed west in search of wide receivers who run deep.

Aikman's decision to transfer from Oklahoma to UCLA after his sophomore season did not mean that he had become disenchanted with the Sooners, the team he had grown up adoring. He still loved Oklahoma football. But he wanted a chance to play quarterback.

And he sure as heck didn't make the

move because he coveted the bright lights of Los Angeles. No one will ever call this guy with a chaw in his jaw Tinseltown Troy.

Aikman wanders around trendy Westwood minding his own business, losing himself in the crowd, even wishing the crowd would go away so he could find a parking space. Not one to make the scene at the in spots just to be seen, Aikman simply wants to be able to get to McDonald's during rush hour. His hometown of Henryetta, Okla., never had either one—a McDonald's or a rush hour—so trying to handle both at the same time can be challenging.

He pals around with offensive linemen, feeling right at home with those big ol' boys who are long on football savvy and short on ego.

He did the same at Oklahoma.

During the 1987 season he had lunch once a week with Bruins Coach Terry

Donahue. Pretty impressive for a country boy. But nobody knew that until the season was over. Aikman never mentioned it.

That's Aikman.

In his first season at UCLA, Aikman established himself as one of the best quarterbacks in the country, a strong Heisman Trophy candidate and a top pro prospect. But you won't hear much about that from him.

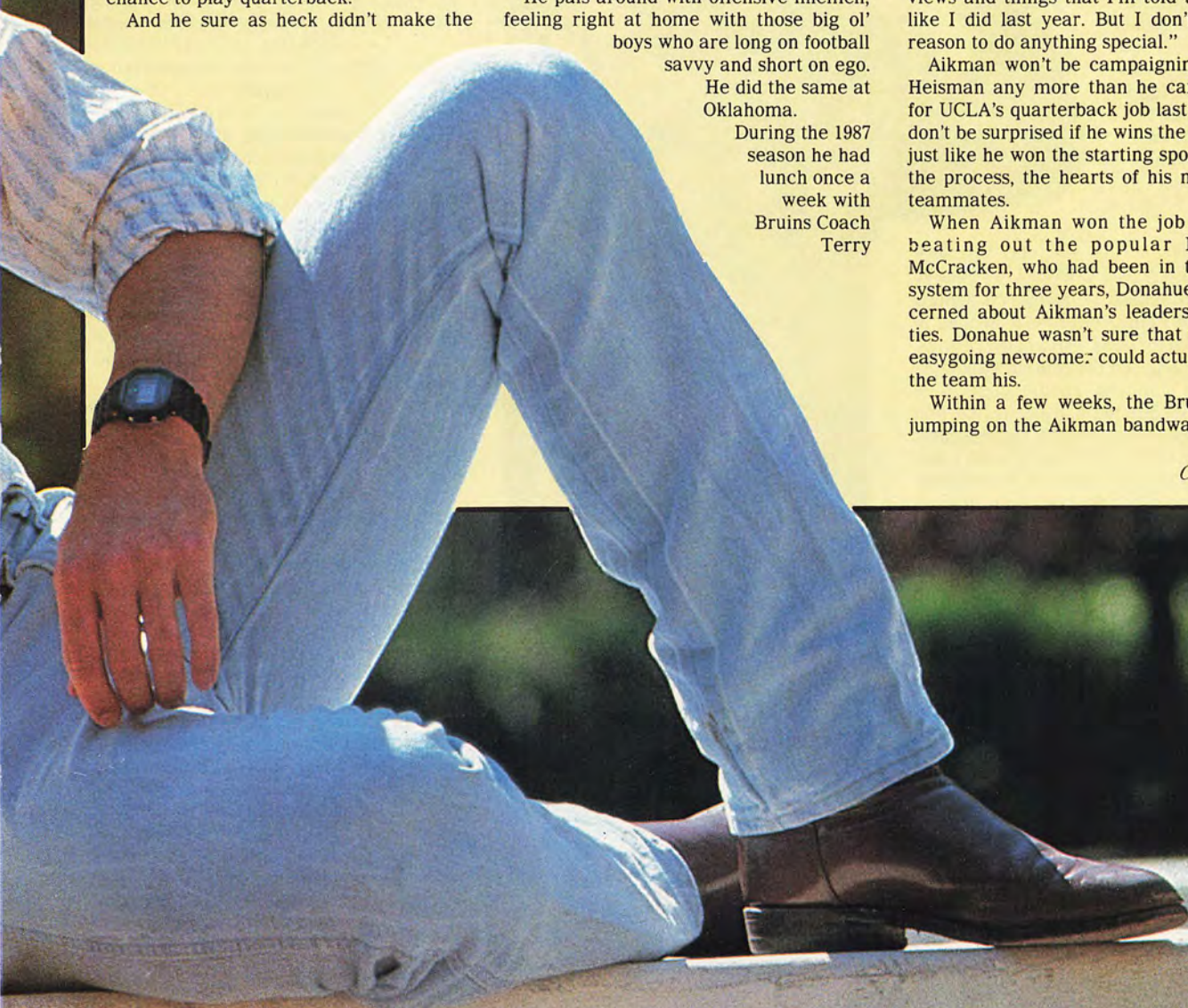
"I don't plan to handle it at all," Aikman replied in his Oklahoma drawl when asked how he planned to handle the inevitable Heisman hype this fall. "I plan to play football and let you (the media) do whatever you have to do. I'll do the interviews and things that I'm told to do, just like I did last year. But I don't see any reason to do anything special."

Aikman won't be campaigning for the Heisman any more than he campaigned for UCLA's quarterback job last year. But don't be surprised if he wins the Heisman, just like he won the starting spot—and, in the process, the hearts of his new Bruin teammates.

When Aikman won the job last fall, beating out the popular Brendan McCracken, who had been in the UCLA system for three years, Donahue was concerned about Aikman's leadership qualities. Donahue wasn't sure that the quiet, easygoing newcomer could actually make the team his.

Within a few weeks, the Bruins were jumping on the Aikman bandwagon, sing-

Continued



BOOMER BRUIN

ing his praises and humming "Boomer Sooner."

How did he do it?

"Well, we were winning," Aikman explained.

In fact, Aikman had the Bruins on track to the Rose Bowl until he had an off day against archrival Southern California. After being intercepted only three times in UCLA's first 10 games, he threw three interceptions against the Trojans, whose 17-13 upset gave them a share of the Pacific-10 Conference championship and the Rose Bowl berth.

Before that game, Aikman had been awesome. He had led Division I-A in passing efficiency most of the season. He hadn't thrown an interception until the fifth game of the year, and two of the first three had been on deflected passes. The Bruins' only loss had come at Nebraska. With Aikman passing for 173 yards and one touchdown, the Bruins then bounced back from the USC game to defeat Florida in the Aloha Bowl. It was only the third time UCLA had won 10 games in a season.

Aikman's subpar performance against USC dropped him from first to second in the national passing efficiency ratings, but he still finished the season with some impressive numbers—good enough to be named a second-team All-America and the Pac-10's all-conference quarterback. He completed 159 of 243 passes (65.4 percent) for 2,354 yards and 16 touchdowns. He compiled 2,303 yards of total offense, placing him 20th in Division I-A.

Seriously, now. Are those the stats of a quarterback who should have ever considered Oklahoma? What made a guy with an arm like his go to a school that thrived on the wishbone in the first place?

"I'd been in Oklahoma since I was 12," Aikman explained. "In the state of Oklahoma, OU football is everything. Everybody wants to go to OU. When I was coming out of high school, Oklahoma was running the I, and Coach (Barry) Switzer told me that they were going to stay in the I. And I believed him."

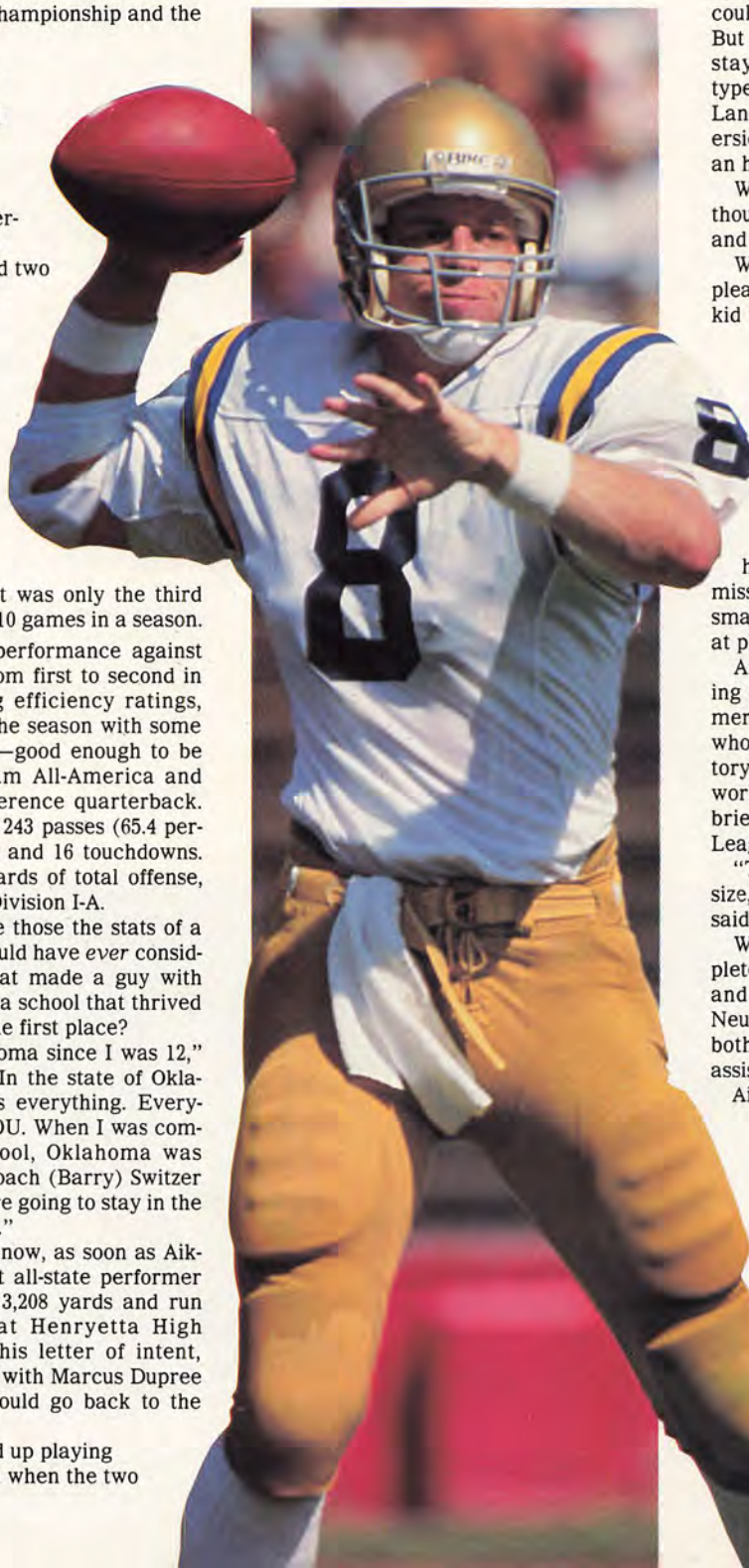
But wouldn't you know, as soon as Aikman, a highly sought all-state performer who had passed for 3,208 yards and run for another 1,568 at Henryetta High School, had signed his letter of intent, Switzer decided that, with Marcus Dupree gone, the Sooners would go back to the wishbone.

Still, Aikman ended up playing briefly as a freshman when the two

quarterbacks ahead of him were hurt. Then as a sophomore, he led the Sooners to three victories before he broke his leg in the fourth game of the season.

Jamelle Holieway moved up to replace Aikman, and the rest is history. Holieway was made for the wishbone, and after showing what he could do in that formation, there was no reason to go back to Aikman.

"When I went to Coach Switzer to tell



him that I wanted to transfer, he told me that he had been expecting me," Aikman said. "He told me he thought it would be best for me, but that he didn't think it was his place to say it, like he was asking me to leave. But he didn't think I should have to waste the rest of my college career. So he made some calls for me."

Switzer explained to the coaches he called that the kid he was letting go would be a good pro quarterback someday, but that the kid just didn't fit his system.

Switzer included a call to UCLA, which in a roundabout way was a hometown school for Aikman, who was born in West Covina, a suburb of Los Angeles. The family had moved to Henryetta so that his dad could work as a gas and oil technologist. But when jobs became scarce his mother stayed in Oklahoma, where she was a typesetter for the *Henryetta Daily Free-Lance*, and his dad accepted a job in Riverside, Calif., which is a little more than an hour away from UCLA.

What Aikman liked most about UCLA, though, was the Bruins' pro-style offense and stable of top receivers.

When Switzer called, Donahue was pleased to hear that a 6-foot-3, 217-pound kid with a good arm, a knack for reading defenses and two years of eligibility was available. He told Aikman to come on over, and in appreciation for Switzer's call, Donahue agreed not to bring Aikman to Westwood until after the Bruins' season-opening game against Oklahoma in 1986, just to avoid any appearance of impropriety. Aikman had to sit out that year anyway, and so missing a couple weeks of practice was a small price to pay in exchange for a shot at playing for the Bruins a year later.

Aikman spent his redshirt year learning the complex Bruin offense from former UCLA quarterback Rick Neuheisel, who had led his team to a Rose Bowl victory over Illinois in 1984. Neuheisel was working as a volunteer assistant after a brief stint in the United States Football League.

"Troy has everything I didn't have—size, speed and a great arm," Neuheisel said.

What Neuheisel did have was a complete understanding of the Bruin offense, and that knowledge can be passed on. Neuheisel taught Aikman well, and now both are back—Neuheisel as a full-time assistant in charge of the quarterbacks, Aikman as a returning starter.

Aikman is UCLA's first returning starter at quarterback since 1982. After Tom Ramsey, a fourth-year senior, led the Bruins to a Rose Bowl triumph over Michigan in 1983, UCLA won four straight bowl games with fifth-year seniors (Neuheisel, Steve Bono, David Norrie and Matt Stevens) at quarterback. Aikman broke the string of fifth-year seniors by starting as a

Continued

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Connecticut	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Georgia	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
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One of Troy Aikman's assets is his tremendous field perception.

BOOMER BRUIN

redshirt junior last year, but the Bruins' bowl roll remained intact with their Aloha Bowl victory.

"It makes it a much more relaxed spring practice," Aikman said. "This was the first spring I was not competing for a starting position. I think that's good. I can relax and help the younger players. Of course, I want to see UCLA do well even after I go. I think one of the reasons UCLA has had so many good quarterbacks is that they keep them in the system so long, working together and helping each other."

Said Donahue: "I think his return is going to have a profound effect on our offense. Any time your football team returns a quarterback who is as effective and as efficient as Troy Aikman, it makes you better. He will make our offense so much further along at the start of the season. Especially a team like us, the way we throw and run and mix it up, the quarterback has to be an integral part of every play."

Steve Axman, UCLA's offensive coordinator, has designed plays to take advantage of Aikman's ability to see the whole field at a glance.

"The worst thing you can do to Troy is just try to have one or two receivers that he's reading," Axman said. "The best thing you can have is an across-the-field read and just time things so he can scan, because he'll find the open receiver. When you're looking at your first read, the defense is zeroing in on your eyes. So as you go to your second and third reads, they're not focused in as well. But the big thing is he has the arm to get it there even if it's all the way backside."

"He has tremendous field perception, and he's got that quick release and the gun."

Aikman also has the confidence to change a call if necessary. When the Washington defense lined up in a surprise formation on a play that was designed to go to one side, Aikman called an audible that sent tailback Eric Ball to the other side. Ball went 54 yards for a touchdown. Calls like that make Aikman popular with running backs, too.

In fact, Aikman's high-efficiency passing opened up the Bruins' ground game last year. The Bruins gained only 279 fewer yards rushing than passing in 1987.

You could never tell by looking at Aikman last year that he was enjoying one of the finest seasons ever by a UCLA quarterback. He is stoic in both victory and defeat.

"I don't show my emotions on the outside," he said, "but I do get keyed up for a game."

So when his bad day against the Trojans cost the Bruins a Rose Bowl berth, Aikman met wave after wave of reporters with the same patience and calmness that had marked his demeanor after his many victorious performances. But that didn't mean he was indifferent about the loss.

"It was one of those games where we just wanted to win so bad and there was so much at stake," he said. "I wanted to do well, and I might have gone in too tight. I didn't play well at all. I wasn't as loose as I was in other ball games."

"That USC game never has left my mind. After the USC game for two weeks straight, I didn't get any sleep. That was one of the worst losses I've ever suffered

as a player. My goal is to prevent that from happening again."

"It helped the whole team to go to Hawaii and win (the Aloha Bowl). But I don't think anybody got over the fact that we weren't in the Rose Bowl."

The hero of the USC game was Trojan quarterback Rodney Peete, who also will be touted for the Heisman Trophy this season. But Donahue said that one game should not make Aikman take a back seat to Peete.

"Troy had so many brilliant games, we just came to expect so much of him," he said. "I don't think we protected him very well that day and SC played a great game. He wasn't on that day, and consequently, we didn't do well. But it's like Rodney Peete. He had a very poor day against us the year before. That can happen."

Donahue doesn't expect a player of Aikman's caliber to have many days like that, though.

"Troy Aikman's greatest asset is that he has an incredibly strong arm," the coach said. "He puts tremendous heat on the ball. He can throw off-balance and he has tremendous ball speed. He can put it through cracks between defenders. He has excellent height. He also has toughness and competitiveness and good leadership qualities. He has everything that a great player has to have. The only thing he doesn't have is a tremendous wealth of experience."

Nor is he much of a media darling—yet.

"Being a Heisman Trophy candidate has its pluses and minuses," Donahue said. "You always want your program and your athletes to get recognition. It would be terrific for Troy and for our program for him to win the Heisman. But there are distractions that go with it. You have to take the bitter with the sweet."

"The good news is he's a Heisman candidate. The bad news is the media could keep him from concentrating his efforts. But it certainly beats the alternative. I'd rather have a player who is good enough to be distracted than one who nobody notices."

"But Troy is such a low-key guy that I'm hoping it won't bother him. I've spent a lot of time with him, trying to get to know him, and I believe he really is a mature young man. He's also a wonderful player and a legitimate Heisman Trophy candidate. I think we can live with that this year."

Just as Aikman is learning to live with the crowds and traffic in Los Angeles.

"It was a big decision for me to leave Oklahoma and to come here and start over," Aikman said. "As far as football goes, things have gone a lot better than what I'd ever planned on."

And he even discovered that living in a big city has some advantages—a degree of anonymity, for one. It's easier to lose yourself in a crowd in Los Angeles than in Norman.

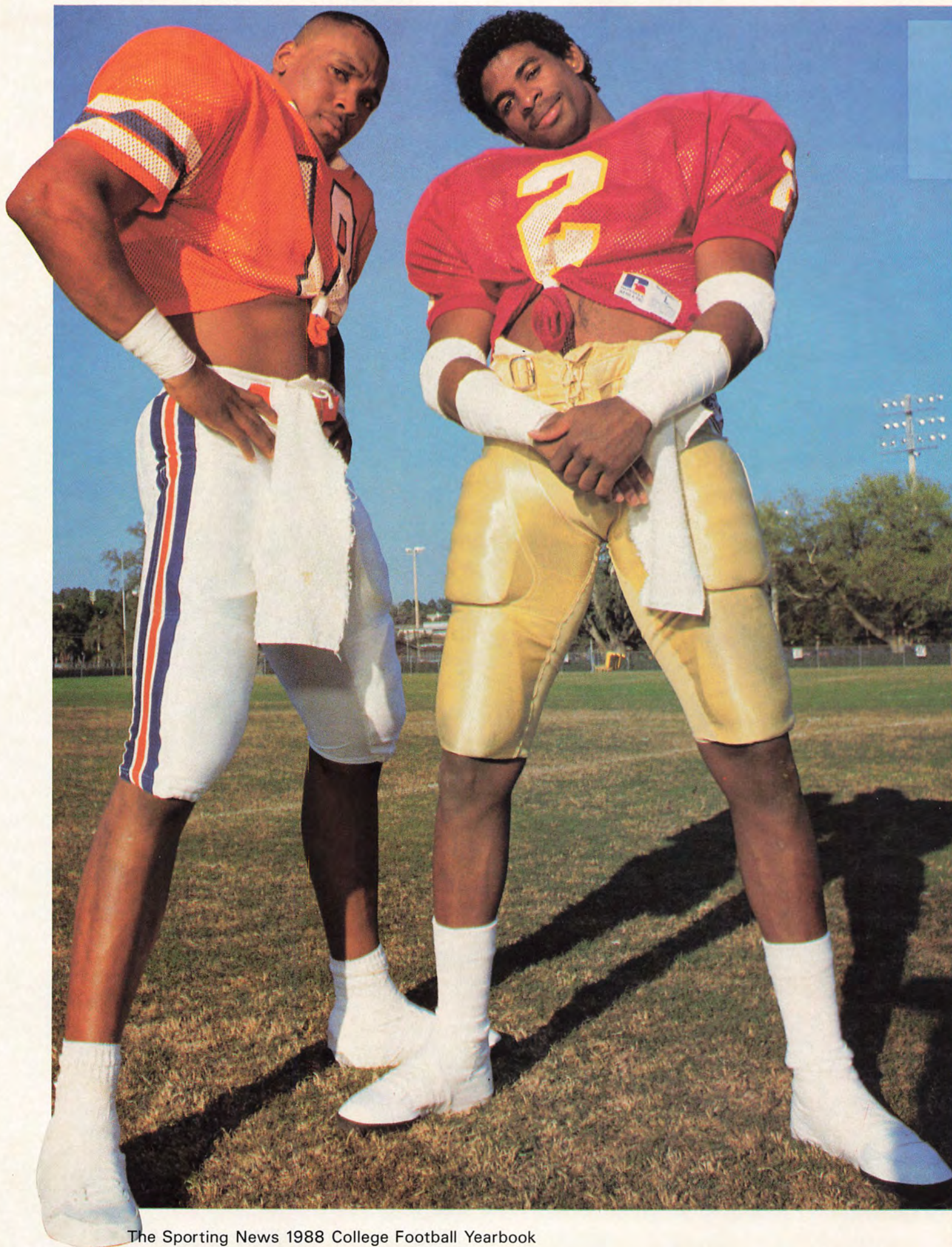
"Everybody in the state of Oklahoma knows if you play OU football," he said. "They know if you're a starter or a back-up. They know your stats."

"I think I like this better." ■

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FLORIDA'S FINEST

Who are the best players in the state? Florida's Louis Oliver and Florida State's Deion Sanders outshine them all, even Emmitt and Sammie Smith

By LARRY GUEST
Orlando Sentinel

Much of the national focus on Florida's collegiate football scene this fall will center on a possible "Smith-off" for the Heisman Trophy. Exceptional tailbacks Emmitt Smith of Florida and Sammie Smith of Florida State—both of whom rushed for more than 1,200 yards last year—justifiably are being touted for the Downtown Athletic Club's venerable prize.

Football scholars in Tallahassee and Gainesville, however, are willing to insist that neither Smith is the best football player on his own respective campus, much less the continent. That honor arguably goes to a pair of backs on the other side of the ball—Florida State cornerback Deion Sanders and Florida free safety Louis Oliver.

It's an argument that their coaches decline to enter, preferring instead to sit back and simply enjoy the tremendous talent on both sides of the debate.

"That's a pretty good argument," Florida State Coach Bobby Bowden said. "Deion is a two-time All-America, and with our secondary a bit thin, we'll be depending on him. As for Louis Oliver, I thought he was the best player at Florida even last year. Let me put it this way: I was more afraid of him than anybody on that team."

Said Florida Coach Galen Hall: "We do have an awful good tailback. But for what Louis has done for this football team, he is a very valuable person. Just his story makes him very valuable—a walk-on who has come on to become a top player. I think our players look up to him. And certainly Deion is very valuable to FSU because of all the things he can do with his speed—covering passes, running back punts and so forth."

Mickey Andrews, Florida State's veteran defensive coordinator, called Sanders "the best I've ever been around." Wayne

NFL scouts are unanimous in projecting safety Louis Oliver (left) and cornerback Deion Sanders as first-round picks in the 1989 draft.

Hogan, the Seminoles' sports information director, wondered aloud if perhaps Sanders—instead of or at least in addition to Sammie Smith—is the player he should be pushing for the Heisman.

"Why not?" Hogan asked. "Deion may be the best athlete we've ever had here."

Great defensive backs don't win Heismans. Only football games. And both of these seniors have notched more than their share for the Seminoles and Gators.

Sanders, a brash, gifted athlete from Fort Myers, Fla., became Florida State's sixth consensus All-America last year. He has nine career interceptions, not including one each in the 1988 Fiesta Bowl and the 1985 Gator Bowl. Opposing quarterbacks have been trying to avoid him ever since his freshman season in 1985, when he returned an interception 100 yards for a touchdown against Tulsa to set a school record.

Sanders also made his mark as a punt returner as a rookie, when he became the first Seminole in six years to return a punt for a touchdown. That 58-yard runback came against Florida, a game in which he wore a rubber cast protecting a broken wrist. He returned another punt 49 yards for a TD last year, when he set school records for season and career return yardage and averaged 11.9 yards per return. Ranking among the national leaders on a team that rushes 10 men and leaves the punt returner to fend for himself is pretty impressive.

Sanders is such a broadly talented athlete that he also has starred in baseball and track at Florida State and has even begged coaches to let him take on the additional duties of offensive receiver and basketball guard.

Unlike Sanders, who entered his junior season with a pretty good pile of press clippings, Oliver turned in an All-America performance last season that came as a bit of a surprise. The Florida sports information office had tagged safety Jarvis Williams for the main media blitz among the Gator defenders, but Oliver overshadowed his teammate with his devastating tackles (72, second on the team) and superior pass coverage (a team-high five interceptions and 19 pass deflections).

Oliver, an accounting major from Belle

Glade, Fla., who has a shade below a 3.0 grade-point average in college so far and has once been named a member of the academic All-Southeastern Conference squad, owns seven interceptions and 153 tackles in just two seasons as a starter. That represents quite an accomplishment for a guy who was redshirted as a walk-on in 1984 and spent most of the '85 season on the Gators' special teams.

And here's the bad news for a lot of running backs and receivers: Both Sanders and Oliver approach the 1988 season with additional speed and beef. A player usually can gain in only one or the other.

Already gifted with the frightening combination of linebacker size and sprinter speed, the 6-foot-2 Oliver was up to 227 all-muscle pounds (from 214 the year before) and down to an impressive 4.35-second clocking (from 4.38) in the 40-yard dash on pro scouts' timing day last spring.

The next day in Tallahassee, the scouts were tempted to check their stopwatches when the 6-foot Sanders flashed by in an astonishing 4.21 seconds. That was almost a full tenth of a second faster than his time a year earlier. The scouts asked him to run another and he obliged. In 4.25 seconds. This by a onetime 170-pound freshman who has bulked up to a more punishing 195.

National Football League scouts are unanimous in projecting both Sanders and Oliver as first-round picks in the 1989 draft.

"First round?" Sanders sneered in typical bravado. "I'd be disappointed if I go later than the fifth pick in the first round."

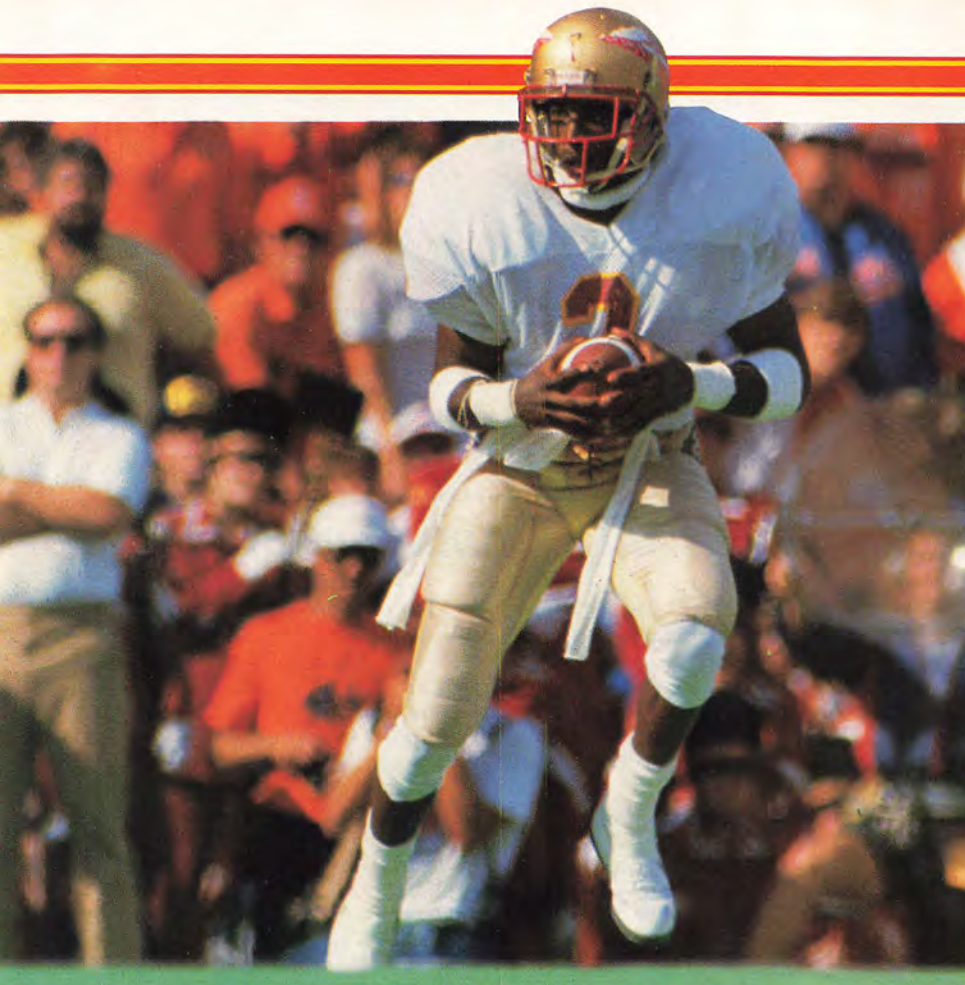
That self-assuredness is reflected in Sanders' performance on the field.

"When Deion first came here, he wasn't a physical player," Andrews recalled. "He'd drag you down. Now he looks you in the eye."

Oliver has always been that way. Florida coaches have been known to sit around in feverish debate over which of Oliver's jarring tackles measured highest on the Richter scale.

"The big hits are more fun," Oliver said. "If it was up to me, I'd try to knock the guy out on every play. When I hit some-

Continued



Sanders' (above) strength is his great acceleration, which he utilizes in blanketing receivers and returning punts, while the linebacker-sized Oliver is well-known for his teeth-rattling tackles.



FLORIDA'S FINEST

body, I don't want them to get up. If they get up, I feel bad. I feel like I haven't done my job."

Said Hall: "Louis has the physical size to make him the exceptional free safety. We've changed our scheme a little so he'll have more of a support or monster-type role in backing up the run more this year."

Hall likes to use the word "saver" in describing Oliver's role in the defense.

"Louis is a great saver for us," he said. "He comes up with the big tackle, runs people down from behind."

Speed is Sanders' strong point.

"Here's a kid who has great physical tools," Andrews said. "He has unbelievable speed, and probably the best thing that gives him is the ability to recover with his great acceleration. Receivers beat defensive backs by separating. Deion can accelerate and close that cushion, or separation, like no one I've ever seen."

In partnership with that blessing of speed is an uncompromising drive to improve. For example, Sanders was excused from spring football to compete as a sprinter with the Florida State track team. But that didn't mean he put his shoulder pads in storage for the spring.

"He didn't even have to practice football," Andrews said, "but I encouraged him to come out a few times and just work on some techniques in shorts. I sort of challenged him by telling him there would be a lot of wide receivers working like mad in the spring to get an edge on him while he was away from spring football."

Challenge accepted. Between track workouts, Deion dressed out for five of the Seminoles' first 14 practices. In full gear. Going full speed in scrimmages.

"I just couldn't go without being out there," Sanders said. "I'd hear about some of the defensive backs getting beat by certain receivers, and I'd get angry and have to go out there."

Sanders has such an itch to be in the game, he even volunteered to play both offense and defense this fall, citing the example of Gordie Lockbaum, the cornerback/taillback for Holy Cross.

"I don't think they'll let me do it," Sanders said wistfully. "The offensive coaches would love to see me over there. But Coach Andrews is afraid it might hurt my defensive play."

Andrews has no doubt that Sanders could do the job.

"He could be a great receiver," Andrews said. "But he's already a great cornerback, and they're hard to find, college or pro. We don't have a shortage of receivers or running backs. If we did, it might be another matter."

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"This (wanting to play two ways) is an example of the type of person Deion is, striving for things beyond the norm. He doesn't like to be average anything. He has great work habits, and the only thing he needs to work on is consistency. In the past, if he wasn't challenged, he didn't play as well or prepare as well."

Said Sanders: "Big games definitely bring out the best in me. I wish I could play the same all the time. I just have a hard time getting up for games like Furman."

In a famous show of versatility, Sanders once played in a Metro Conference Tournament baseball game, raced over to the track to run a leg in a 400-meter relay while still in his baseball pants, then dashed back in time to stroke the winning hit in the Seminoles' second tournament

game of the day. Sanders, filling in for a world-class hurdler who had become ill, had practiced all of 10 minutes for the relay, which the Seminoles won. That victory, combined with the triumph in the baseball game, gave Florida State the Metro all-sports crown that year.

This one-man sports program was drafted by the Kansas City Royals after his high school graduation. He showed such promise as an outfielder during his freshman and sophomore seasons that he was named to the preseason college All-America baseball team last winter. But Sanders threw a curve by deciding to drop baseball to concentrate on track.

"I got bored with baseball," he said. "It took too much of my time. I really intended only to use baseball for leverage in a pro (football) contract. Now I don't think I need leverage."

Though the two Floridians share the common bond of being perhaps the two best defensive backs in the country this year, Oliver and Sanders represent sharp contrasts in terms of on-field personality and the roads they traveled to reach col-

legiate stardom.

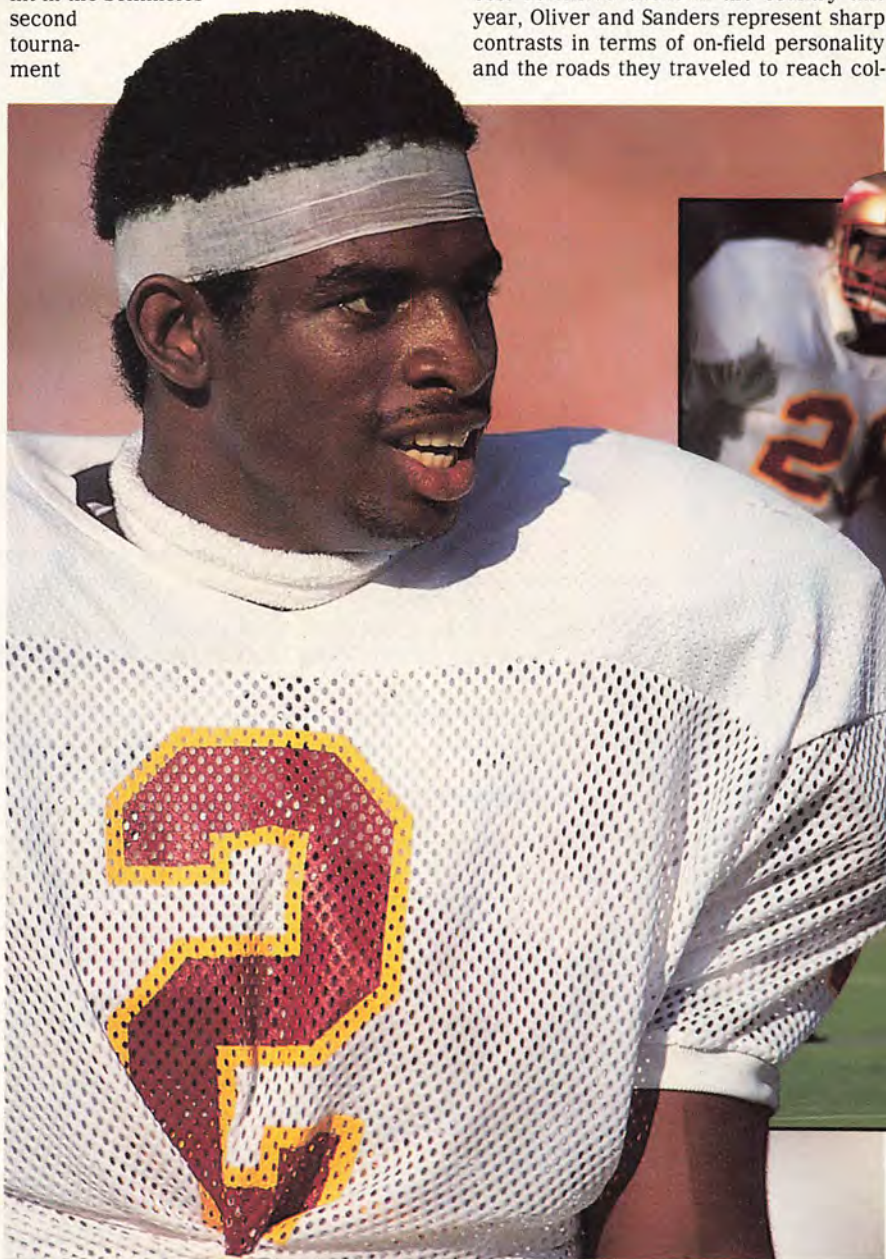
On the field, Oliver is a brooding, intimidating force, a veritable Darth Vader. He's all business from the word go, and he doesn't talk much.

Sanders is glib and cocky, filling opponents' ears and reporters' notebooks with spiffy one-liners and taunts that leave his own coaches shaking their heads. Andrews confessed that he has tried to put a bridle on Sanders' tongue.

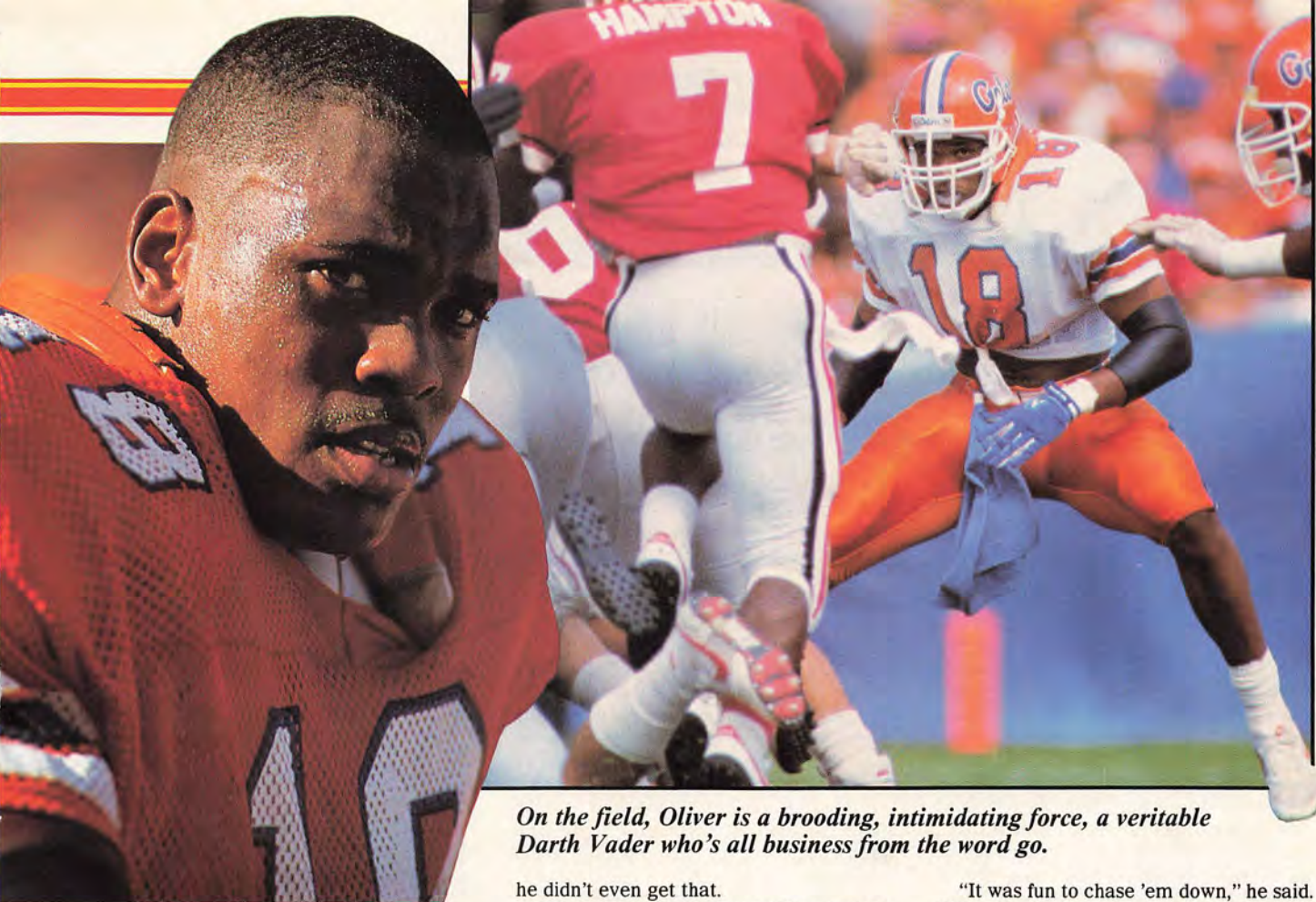
"That's not Coach Bowden's or our way of doing things," Andrews said. "You do your talking on the scoreboard. I think some of it has been blown out of proportion. Deion is an enthusiastic person, outgoing. He's expressive."

Said Sanders: "Yeah, they get on me about that. I just tell them that I don't mean anything by that—I'm just ribbing the other guy."

After the coin toss to start the Florida-Florida State game last year, Sanders reached across to shake hands with quarterback Kerwin Bell and teased, "Throw me one today." Bell was amused. Not so amused were Michigan State stars Lorenzo White and Andre Rison, who were throttled in a 31-3 Florida State rout. On the field, Sanders told Rison, the Spartans' top receiver: "I watched you on film and



Sanders is glib and cocky, filling opponents' ears with taunts that leave his own coaches shaking their heads.



On the field, Oliver is a brooding, intimidating force, a veritable Darth Vader who's all business from the word go.

thought you were great. I guess the film lied." Afterward, he said of White, Michigan State's Heisman hopeful: "Lorenzo White didn't show me nothing. I don't know who showed up in his uniform."

Sanders usually can back up his mouth. The glaring exception came in last year's Florida State-Miami game. Late in the third quarter, the Seminoles held a commanding 19-3 lead.

"Quit trying so hard," he told Miami wide receiver Michael Irvin. "Don't you know the game's over?"

Talk about counting your chickens. Miami pulled out a 26-25 victory with three touchdowns and two two-point conversions in the final 16 minutes. Two of those TDs came on passes to Irvin while Sanders was covering someone else.

Oliver is more reserved, so you probably won't see him putting his foot in his mouth too often.

"I really don't talk on the field very much," he said. "I don't feel I can talk and intimidate anyone. I'd rather try to rattle their teeth. That's more my style."

Sanders, provided everything he wanted as a youngster, rode the yellow bricks to Tallahassee, settling on the Seminoles after being recruited from coast to coast. From day one at Florida State he has been swabbed in attention, massive gold chains and a flashy sports car—everything but national recognition, and even that has started coming his way.

Oliver, surviving a disadvantaged youth in a rugged area of South Florida, climbed the ladder with sheer determination. He would have been happy with a scholarship when he arrived in Gainesville, but

he didn't even get that.

Oliver was a fast, fierce hitter in high school, but he was completely overlooked by major college recruiters for two reasons. One was his location in Belle Glade, a drug-infested, AIDS-ridden area on the fringe of the Everglades. Recruiters were not anxious to venture into Belle Glade on a Friday night and therefore scouted Oliver's team primarily on film. Second, rival high school coaches and players knew of Oliver's menacing potential and avoided his side of the field as if it were covered with cobras.

"Louis just didn't show up on the films because the camera would follow the ball," recalled Zaven Yaralian, the former Gator assistant who recruited Oliver's area. Oliver said there was one stretch of five games in his senior season when not one pass was thrown to his side of the field.

The result was that only Division II Central Florida and a couple of obscure Division I schools in the distant Northeast expressed interest in him. Encouraged by his high school track coach, Oliver was convinced he could play major college ball and set out for Gainesville to make his case.

Oliver's visits back to Belle Glade have been rare. He tries to forget most aspects of his boyhood.

"Every time I go home, somebody I went to school with has died from AIDS," Oliver said. "That's scary. So I just stay away and call my parents on the phone."

Oliver's fondest childhood memory is of chasing rabbits as a 12-year-old. At harvest time, sugar cane field operators burned back the brush, flushing thousands of rabbits onto the canal banks.

"It was fun to chase 'em down," he said. "I'd take some home to eat—they taste pretty good—and sell the rest to older people for a dollar apiece. On a good day, you could come back with 50 to 100 rabbits."

Oliver's mother was a field hand, his father a cane truck driver. Though limited in what they could provide, the Olivers emphasized to their four children that the surest way out of Belle Glade was good grades. Louis became a scholar, earning a 3.6 GPA and membership in the National Honor Society in high school. Armed with those grades and an assist from his high school track coach, Oliver walked on at Florida with a \$1,500 student loan, a \$700 Pell Grant and a \$750 academic scholarship.

He needed just one season to show the coaches what a terrible oversight they had made in recruiting. Oliver opened a lot of eyes with his performance as a defensive back on the Gators' scout team in 1984.

His day of reward came that next summer. On August 26, 1985—Louis can quote that golden date in a flicker—he was fretting over how he would pay the bills for his second year of college. His parents' modest savings were tapped out, and renewal of even his small academic scholarship had not yet been approved.

"Coach Hall called me into his office and said I was being placed on full scholarship," Oliver recalled. "I ran out of his office and ran all the way to my room to call home. I was so happy, I just jumped all around my room."

Hardly a receiver or running back on the Gators' schedule has been happy since. ■

HUMBLE HUM

The greatest runner in 'Bama history insists he's just a regular guy

By BOB MAYES
Huntsville Times

Bill Curry admits he was a bit suspicious.

University of Alabama President Joab Thomas' decision to hire Curry, a Georgia Tech graduate with a losing coaching record, to replace Ray Perkins as football coach in January 1987 had been, to say the least, controversial. Many Crimson Tide "family" members were outraged that one of Bear's boys, or at least Birmingham-native Bobby Bowden of Florida State, hadn't been picked. Fans and media across the state raised a stink.

But from the first day, Curry found one of his strongest allies to be somebody he thought he might have the most difficulty winning over.

Bobby Humphrey.

Humphrey, a 6-foot-1, 187-pound tailback, was coming off a sensational sophomore season in which he had broken Alabama's single-season and single-game rushing records, rushed for 200-plus yards in three games and been a consensus All-Southeastern Conference selection.

"A player like that a lot of times will make a new coach prove himself to him," Curry said. "But from the very first day we found Bobby coming to us, telling us he was behind us 100 percent, that he wanted to do whatever he could to help make it easier for us."

It wasn't just talk.

"He was a leader in the off-season program," Curry said, "and then during spring practice he won the 'I Like to Practice' award, which is very unusual for a player with his credentials."

"He shocked us on the very first day of spring practice by showing us what has become obvious to everyone who has ever seen him play—that is, he has one concentration level, one speed, whether it's in a game or in practice. He always goes all-out."

"It would have been easy for him to do what some of the others did, which was to be openly skeptical about us. Instead, we found Bobby encouraging us: 'Hey, I really like this approach. I like this play. We're really going to do well.'"

"I'm wondering if this kid is for real. My curiosity about him grew. Where did this guy come from? How did he turn out like this?"

On the Monday after the sixth game of

the 1987 season, Curry got his answer. Alabama had just been dealt one of its most bitter and frustrating defeats in memory, a 13-10 loss to Memphis State, when Curry received a message to call Marlene Humphrey in Birmingham.

"A lot of times when a parent calls, it's to complain," Curry said. "I was sort of expecting that. So when I call, this lady comes on the phone and she says, 'Coach, I'm calling on behalf of the parents that I know, and we just want you to know we love you, we appreciate you, and we are just so glad our sons are playing for you.'"

"I just sat there. Nobody had ever done that. I've had parents, after their children's careers were over, come up to me and say some really nice things, but never in the middle of the season, particularly at a low point like that."

"Under the circumstances, I thought it was the perfect answer to my question about how Bobby Humphrey turned out the way he did. She is one of those special people who obviously had the ability to show her son how to be a positive, powerful presence."

Both on and off the football field.

On the field, Humphrey has become the greatest running back in Alabama history and, after earning All-America honors as a junior last fall, has forged to the front of the pack of Heisman Trophy favorites.

His 3,228 career rushing yards are easily the best in Crimson Tide history, as are his 1,015 kickoff return yards. His 37 career touchdowns and 573 career rushing attempts are each one short of school records held by Johnny Musso.

As a sophomore, Humphrey set Alabama single-season records for yards rushing (1,471), touchdowns (17) and points (104). As a junior, his 238 rushing attempts set a season record and resulted in 1,255 yards gained.

Humphrey enters his senior season with 4,760 career all-purpose yards. He should have no problem breaking Herschel Walker's SEC record of 5,749 yards. He ranks ninth in SEC career rushing yards and seventh in touchdowns. He needs 16 TDs this fall to break Walker's

Continued

Bobby Humphrey grew up in a tough neighborhood across the street from Legion Field in Birmingham.



IPHREY



HUMPHREY

SEC record of 52, but the former Georgia star's career mark of 5,259 yards rushing probably is out of reach.

Setting all of these career records depends, of course, on Humphrey's health this season, and it appeared for a few moments last spring as if that could be a problem.

Humphrey was running with the ball in a three-quarter speed practice drill April 4 when he made a cut and felt a jolt of pain in his left foot. Seeing the team's star tailback hobbling off the practice field was a source of concern to many, but Humphrey, for one, wasn't that upset.

"My foot had been hurting for about a week," Humphrey explained, "and the doctor told me I had a stress fracture. At the time it happened I was happy because as it turned out, it was just a matter of time before it gave out on me and popped. In a sense, it was good that it happened because it will give me time to get it well and be ready to play in the fall."

Humphrey's injury was diagnosed as a fracture of his fifth metatarsal bone. In layman's terms, he broke his little toe.

"It's the last bone out," Curry said, "and right on the edge of the foot. . . . It would be a lot more complicated if it was further over in the middle of the foot."

Bone graft surgery was performed April 7, after which the Alabama coaches let out a huge sigh of relief. Though Humphrey was expected to wear a cast for two months, he should be at full speed by the Crimson Tide's season opener September 10 at Temple.

"The doctors say my chances of playing in the fall will be no problem," Humphrey said. "They just want me to do the right thing so it won't give me any trouble."

"I probably won't be able to run until June, but that's all right because I usually don't start my intensive training for fall until about that time anyway."

In the meantime, Humphrey focused on following his rehabilitation instructions to the letter.

"If you don't rehabilitate it right," he said, "it can give you a lot of problems and keep you out of a lot of games. If you don't do the right things for it, you're going to run into trouble."

And the last thing anybody in Tuscaloosa wants is trouble when Humphrey has an excellent shot at becoming the Tide's first Heisman Trophy winner.

"It means a lot," he said. "It is one of the biggest awards in the game, and it would be a great honor to win it. It makes a guy feel really good to know he's even being considered for it."

"You look at the Heisman as one of those distractions, but you've got to keep it in perspective. If you concentrate on winning the Heisman, you're not going to do very well on the field."

"I try to push it aside. The majority of the time I think about it is when my friends bring it up, when they say: 'Man, this is the year. You really ought to win it



this year.' "

Barbara May, Humphrey's fiancée and a track athlete at Alabama-Birmingham, said Humphrey places team goals ahead of his own.

"I think the Heisman Trophy is very important to him," she said, "but he'd really rather win the national championship. He talks a lot more about that than he does about winning the Heisman Trophy. But I know that if he won, it would be like a dream come true for him."

Impressive statistics alone make Humphrey a strong Heisman candidate, but making him even more appealing is his positive, powerful presence off the field. That presence has made him a leader and a respected friend among his teammates.

Such as Vantrese Davis. A junior line-backer, Davis is probably Humphrey's

closest friend on the team. They became friends early in the 1986 season after Willie Ryles, a promising defensive tackle and Davis' roommate, died from a cerebral hemorrhage a few days before the Tide's season-opening game. Davis, who had been friends with Ryles since elementary school, was devastated.

"We became really tight after Big Will died," Davis said. "He'd come down to my room to see if I was OK. He could've just said, 'How's it going?' and not really gotten involved. But Bobby took the time to sit down and talk to me and help me through it. It was a really difficult time in my life, and he gave me a shoulder to lean on. That was very important to me."

A year later, Humphrey again was there for his friend after Davis was suspended from the team for one game for disciplinary reasons.



The Cadillac of tailbacks, Humphrey can run over opponents just as easily as around them.

"I like to do all the same kinds of things that other students do. I like hanging out with my friends, playing basketball and video games or going fishing. I like to go to parties or going shopping with my fiancée."

Going shopping is easier said than done for a Heisman hopeful in football-crazy Alabama.

"He's really a laid-back kind of guy," Barbara May said. "No matter where we go in Birmingham or Tuscaloosa, people recognize him and want to talk to him."

"He tries to be understanding and he tries to sign all the autographs. He tries not to show it, but sometimes I think it bothers him a little bit."

Which is understandable. Even a Heisman candidate is entitled to a little privacy. When he is in Birmingham, Humphrey's best bet is a quiet evening with Barbara or his family. In Tuscaloosa, it usually means a movie with Davis and some of his teammates.

"Most of the time we go on Monday night because it only costs \$1.99 to get in," Humphrey said with a laugh. "It's something I really get into, kind of an escape."

And which movie star does this easygoing 21-year-old like best? Eddie Murphy? Burt Reynolds? Tom Selleck?

Try Clint Eastwood.

"I like the way he handles things," Humphrey said. "He's always in control. No matter how bad things get, he knows he's going to come out on top. That's kind of the way I feel about myself."

It's safe to say that Humphrey already has come out on top, considering that he was raised in an environment that could have easily dragged him down.

Humphrey grew up in Elyton Village, a tough neighborhood across the street from Legion Field in Birmingham. In Elyton Village, the crime rate is high, drugs are readily available and gangs roam the streets.

"It was a tough neighborhood to grow up in," Humphrey said. "I could have been one of those kids that went the other way. A lot of kids I grew up with are out on the streets now."

"When I was a little kid in elementary school, I was in a gang called E Phi P. Whenever other gangs would come into our territory and try to disturb something, we'd stop them. But I don't think we were really bad kids. We were kind of like the good guys, trying to keep everything right."

Humphrey credits his mother with keeping him away from the evil that lurked around his neighborhood.

"I have to give most of the credit to my mom for how I turned out," he said. "She made sure I wasn't going to get into any trouble."

"I know there is so much trouble children can get into," said Marlene Humphrey, who has raised three sons and

"He told me to just forget about it and not to worry about what people said," Davis recalled. "He told me just to concentrate on my schoolwork and on football and everything would turn out fine."

"It seems like he's always there when I need him. He's the kind of a person you can depend on."

Take, for example, any afternoon in the weight room during the Tide's off-season program, which is generally considered one of the nation's toughest.

"Man, it's brutal down there," senior tight end Howard Cross said. "You'll be in there and you'll feel like you can't make it. You just don't know how you're going to get through it."

"Then Bobby will say something like: 'C'mon guy, we've only got 16 more quarters (the duration of a drill) to go. We ought to be able to do anything for 16

quarters.'

"That'll kind of pick everybody up. He always works as hard or harder than anybody else and he never complains. He's somebody everybody looks up to."

But Humphrey looks down at no one. Consider his typical reaction after a long run.

"Maybe there'll be a sweep, which usually comes to my side of the field," Cross said. "I'll block my man, and when the play is over and Bobby has run for 25 or 30 yards, I'll head downfield wanting to congratulate him. But before I can say anything, he'll be patting me on the back and telling me what a good block I made."

The word for Humphrey is humble.

"I don't consider myself anything special," he said. "I'm just a regular guy, just like any student at Alabama except that I happen to be on the football team."

Continued

HUMPHREY

a daughter with a loving heart, a firm hand and a steady voice. "A child that's on the streets can get into a lot more trouble than a child that's at home. There are just so many things in that neighborhood that can come along and lead you astray."

Marlene Humphrey never had to worry about her second-oldest son getting mixed up with drugs or crime. He had no interest in either. His only vice, at least in his mother's eyes, was football.

"When Bobby was a little bitty boy," she said, "he used to watch the professionals on the TV. I'd be in the kitchen trying to cook, and he'd come in there and start tugging on my dress wanting me to come and see. He'd say: 'Mama, Mama, lookie here. See that team, Mama? When I get big, I'm gonna play for that team.' And I'd say, 'Look at this child, thinking he's gonna be playing on the TV.'"

Marlene Humphrey had no intention of letting her little boy bang heads with the other kids. Afraid that he would get hurt, she refused to let him play football. She thought it would be much better for Bobby to play in the school band, like his older brother, Montte, and so she bought him a trumpet when he was in the fourth grade.

"I don't know why I picked the trumpet," he said. "It wasn't because of Montte—he played the saxophone. Maybe it was because I always liked Louie Armstrong."

"I liked playing, but I wasn't nearly as good as my brother. In fact, he still plays in bands around Birmingham. He's really good."

Humphrey spent countless hours learning to play the trumpet but never gave up hope of playing football. In the eighth grade, he went against his mother's wishes for one of the few times in his life by joining a community center football team without her permission. She didn't even know about it until he came home one night with a trophy he had received after scoring five touchdowns in one game.

"I thought she was going to give me a spanking," he recalled. "I said, 'Look, Mama, I won a trophy,' and I showed it to her. But she didn't spank me. I guess it was because she saw how much it meant to me. Instead she hugged my neck."

That loving gesture did not signify her approval. In fact, she still refused to let Bobby play football when he entered Glenn High School.

"I still wanted him to get in the band," she said. "That got him so disturbed, so depressed. The boys had to have their parents' permission to play in high school, but when they sent home the papers, I wouldn't sign them. I just didn't want Bobby to get hurt."

"Then the coach called and told me how hurt Bobby was. He told me what a great player he could be and how much he could contribute to their team. He asked me to please not deprive him."

She finally relented and her son went



Although he has an excellent shot at becoming Alabama's first Heisman winner, Humphrey would much rather win the national championship.

on to become a prep star, gaining more than 7,000 all-purpose yards. Meanwhile, his longtime affection for the Crimson Tide grew while selling Cokes at Legion Field during his junior and senior years.

"Everybody in our neighborhood was an Alabama fan," he said, "because they'd play at Legion Field, and when they did, everybody got excited."

"I used to park cars in our front yard. Then I started selling Cokes at the stadium because it was a cheaper way to get in and I could watch the whole game. When I was parking cars, I'd always have to buy a ticket in the third or fourth quarter. This way I could watch the whole game. I'd try to sell about five cases so I could make \$50, then I'd sit and watch the rest of the game."

And what ever became of his trumpet?

"I haven't picked the trumpet up in about six years," he said. "I don't miss it, never have the urge to get it out and play. It's just something I used to do, but now it has faded away and I don't have any interest in it anymore."

So Humphrey no longer toots his own horn. He doesn't have to. Others do it for him.

Like Rockey Felker. Felker was the Crimson Tide's running backs coach Humphrey's freshman season before becoming head coach at Mississippi State.

The first time Humphrey played against Felker instead of for him, he rushed for 284 yards, a school record. Felker's Bulldogs managed to hold Humphrey to 135 yards last year, but he scored two touchdowns, one on an 83-yard run.

"It was obvious from very early in his freshman year that he was a special player," Felker said. "He had all the tools—speed, quickness, the ability to change directions. Plus he's a lot more physical than you'd think he would be. He drags tacklers three, four, five extra yards."

"I can't say that the first time I ever saw him, I thought to myself, 'This guy has a chance to be the greatest runner in Alabama history,' but it was certainly obvious he had a lot of intangibles as well as God-given talent."

Ray Perkins, Alabama's coach at that time, was hardly able to contain himself after that game against the Bulldogs.

"He could rush for 500 yards if we would give it to him enough," Perkins said. "He's a great running back. Not a good one, not a real good one, but a great one. He's a good receiver, a good blocker and a great running back."

Penn State discovered that last fall when, on a rain-soaked Beaver Stadium field, he rushed for 220 yards and one touchdown on 36 carries and completed a 57-yard pass that set up another touchdown.

"He's the Cadillac of tailbacks," Nittany Lions nose tackle Aoatua Polamalu said. "We all knew he was quick as heck, but he had deceiving strength. He truly is a great back."

Added defensive back Sherrod Raigne: "He's strong and fast. He looks like a finesse back, but he's strong enough to run over you. Then when you think he's going to run over you he puts a move on you and goes around you."

Auburn Coach Pat Dye also is a Humphrey fan. Dye, who has coached P-Jackson and Brent Fullwood in recent years, knows a little something about great running backs.

"All the great running backs we've faced, including Herschel Walker and John L. Williams, had their own unique style, and Bobby is no different," Dye said. "He's a powerful runner with uncanny balance and great vision. He reminds me of George Rogers when he was at South Carolina."

"Without any doubt, Bobby Humphrey is one of the premier running backs in college football today."

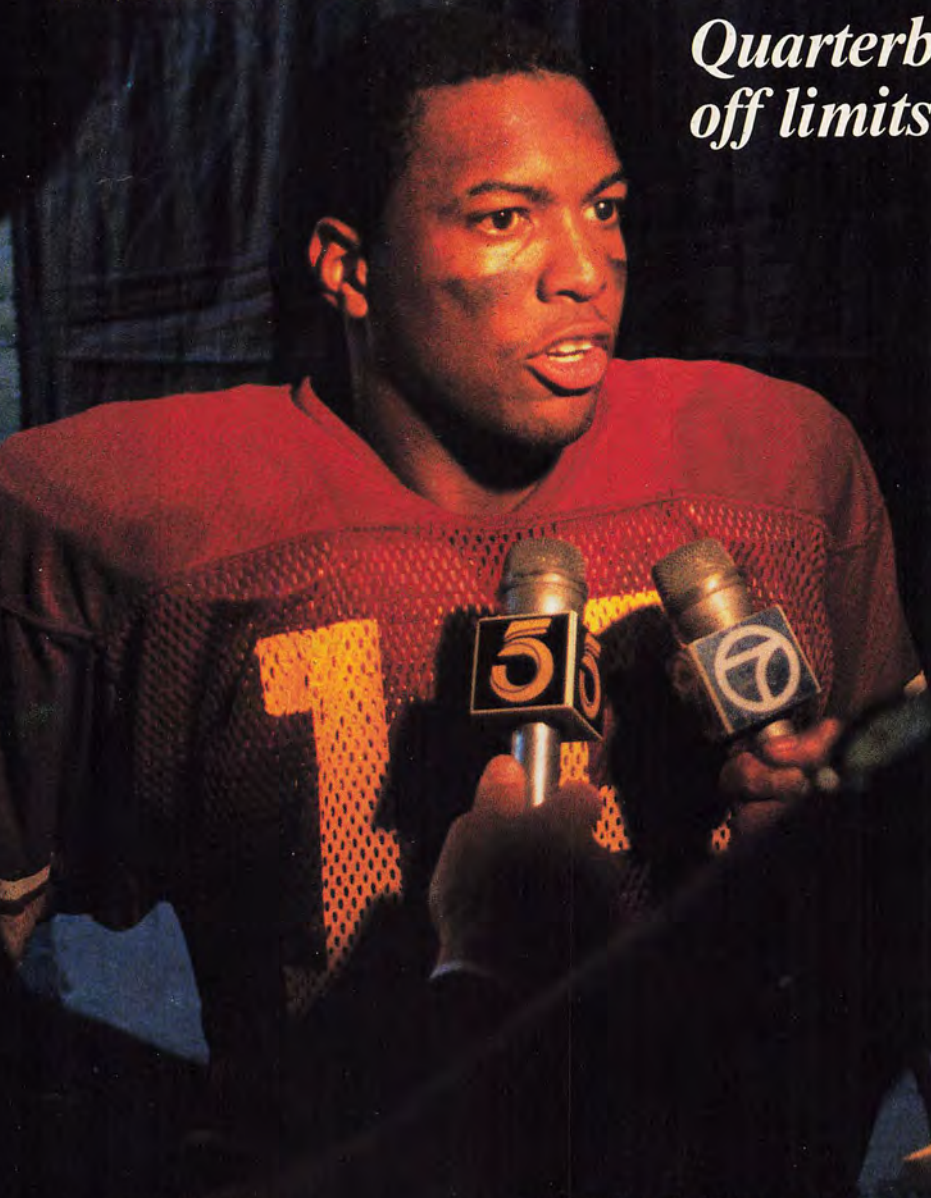
Humphrey's teammates, of course, would concur.

"Bobby's like a lot of different running backs rolled into one," senior linebacker Derrick Thomas said. "He's like Eric Dickerson because he can run over people and because he can run hard and fast. He's like Walter Payton because he's so smart. And he's like Marcus Allen because you can never get a good hit on him. He's always sliding, moving, dancing, juking. You think you've got him tackled and he does something to get away."

"Bobby is a lot like a lot of other people, but there isn't anyone quite like him." ■

THE COLOR BARRIER THE COLOR BARRIER

*Quarterback no longer is
off limits to blacks*



By TERRY FOSTER
Detroit Free Press

Rodney Peete certainly seems to fit the part.

Peete is tall and handsome. He has a personality that charms office workers in the Southern California athletic department. He was a prep All-America quarterback at Shawnee Mission South High School in Overland Park, Kan., an affluent suburb of Kansas City. His speed is above average, his arm powerful. He is a keen leader and quick thinker.

All these attributes—good looks, charm,

athletic talent, intelligence—are associated with quarterbacks. But some schools that recruited Peete would not even promise him a chance to try out at quarterback.

Peete is black. And as many gifted black athletes have discovered, some coaches immediately dismiss the idea of a black playing quarterback.

Playing quarterback "was something I had my heart set on," Peete recalled. "It was the only thing I dreamed about, and I would not let anyone talk me out of it no matter what happened.

"In high school, friends of my brother

told me to switch positions because no college was going to give me a chance. I understand that's the way it was when they grew up. But I was stubborn."

Sure enough, many of the colleges interested in Peete—and there were scores—wanted him to play wide receiver, a position he hadn't played since his sophomore year at Sahuaro High School in Tucson. But he stuck to his guns. Whenever the words "wide receiver" and "defensive back" slipped off college recruiters' lips, Peete immediately crossed

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COLOR BARRIER

those schools off his list.

Not every school was so closed-minded. USC offered him a scholarship, a decision the Trojans don't regret. Peete has become one of the nation's premier quarterbacks and is one of four black signal-callers who will be promoted heavily for the Heisman Trophy this fall.

The others are Steve Taylor of Nebraska, Terrence Jones of Tulane and Eric Jones of Vanderbilt. It's probably still too early for West Virginia sophomore Major Harris to think about the Heisman, but he's in their league, too. And Oklahoma's Jamelle Holieway will be in the running if his wounded knee mends in time.

A trend in the making? You bet. Of Division I-A's 104 schools, about 20 percent will start blacks at quarterback this fall.

"Look around college football and what do you see?" Holieway said. "You see a lot of black quarterbacks coming to the forefront. I think there have always been some great quarterbacks. It's just that they are giving us an opportunity now, instead of just playing us at running back."

Or flanker. Or safety. Blacks have been welcome at skill positions for quite some time, but quarterback has tended to be off limits.

Until recently.

"They are putting the best athletes at quarterback regardless of who it is," said James Reynolds, who coached Pittsburgh quarterback Darnell Dickerson, who is black, at Detroit's Martin Luther King High School.

Reynolds said he believes that within five years, 80 percent of the colleges will have black quarterbacks. That estimate may be high, but the numbers should continue to rise as coaches' attitudes change.

Success changes the mind of almost any coach.

"I'll tell you what happened," USC assistant coach Daryl Gross said. "There is so much pressure to win that you try to take any advantage you can. If you've got a quarterback who runs a little faster or has a little more agility, you are going to try to get that edge."

Athleticism has become a key requisite of college quarterbacks. The era of the strong-armed bullet thrower with little running ability appears to be dying. More college coaches are turning to the all-around athlete who can run an option or spring-out attack and still throw the ball upfield. Defenses have become so complicated that passing lanes often are obscured, and a quarterback who freelances may be the only way to throw the defense out of whack.

Schools such as Oklahoma, Nebraska and USC, which thrive on a strong running game, laid the groundwork, proving that teams can win with a black quarterback. Oklahoma's perennial powerhouses have featured such star quarterbacks as Thomas Lott, J.C. Watts and Holieway. Critics say the quarterback in the Soon-



Southern California's Rodney Peete owns 12 school records, including career passing marks for yardage and completions.

ers' wishbone is little more than a fourth running back, but Holieway said the quarterback still must be a leader. He credits Sooners Coach Barry Switzer with being a trend-setter when it comes to using blacks behind center.

"I really feel Oklahoma has been a big influence," said Holieway, who was replaced by another black, Charles Thompson, when he went down for the season in the Sooners' ninth game of 1987. "You have to have a steppingstone. A lot of people said you can't win with a black quarterback. If you just give someone an opportunity, they can do anything."

Unlike Holieway and Thompson, who are more effective runners than passers, many black quarterbacks are like Eric Jones, who completed 60.7 percent of his passes for 1,954 yards and 16 touchdowns last season. Jones also ran for 665 yards and six TDs, showing the versatility that coaches covet. Peete (2,460 yards) and Terrence Jones (2,551) both displayed

strong arms, too.

The top-rated passer in Division I-A last year was Syracuse's Don McPherson, another black. He was runner-up to Notre Dame's Tim Brown for the Heisman Trophy and had been pegged as a possible second- or third-round draft choice. He appeared to be ready to join Houston's Warren Moon, Philadelphia's Randall Cunningham and Washington's Doug Williams, who led the Redskins to the Super Bowl title last January, as National Football League starting quarterbacks.

But as the draft got closer, McPherson's stock declined for some reason. Few teams expressed interest in him as a quarterback—though many said they would be happy to play him elsewhere—and he was not drafted until the sixth round.

"What happened to him?" a concerned Taylor asked. "I don't see why he was drafted so low. That was discouraging. It was frightening."



Terrence Jones, Tulane's all-time total offense leader, is perhaps the nation's best all-purpose quarterback.



Nebraska's Steve Taylor would rather be known as a quarterback who happens to be black.

Peete was concerned, too.

"I don't know what happened in that situation," he said. "I saw him play, and I thought he was a great quarterback. He did a fantastic job. Maybe the black issue came into play. I'm not sure. I hope not."

"But it is something I can't worry about. I have to go out and have the best year possible and let the scouts make their own judgment."

The NFL has been slower to accept black quarterbacks than the colleges, which quickly discovered that white players were happy to follow a black leader as long as he got the job done.

"Whoever is back there, the players on our team follow," Holieway said. "They just want to win as much as I do, black and white. The bottom line is winning."

Some of today's black quarterbacks see themselves as trailblazers who can make it easier for others to follow.

"I try to tell kids to believe in what they do," Eric Jones said. "If you've got the

ability, you will get the opportunity. Once you get the opportunity, you've got to take advantage of it and believe in yourself.

"Whether there's more (black quarterbacks) in the future depends on us. How we respond and if it works out, then the numbers will continue to grow. That will determine whether there will be another Doug Williams for these kids to look at."

★ ★ ★

"I told you so" is not part of Rodney Peete's vocabulary. He has no interest in thumbing his nose at the schools that didn't want to give him a quarterback try-out. He just goes about the business of running the Trojans' offense.

"I don't have any bitterness toward those schools," Peete said. "When things like that happen, you want to go out and work harder. It lit a fire under me."

Peete, a 6-foot-2, 195-pound senior, considers himself a natural-born leader. It runs in the family, he said. As a longtime assistant coach who now works for the

Green Bay Packers, Rodney's father, Willie Peete, demonstrated many leadership qualities that rubbed off on his son.

"Being in a leadership role was something that was born in me," Rodney said. "My family kept giving me confidence and told me I could do anything I want if I worked hard enough and believed in myself."

Peete believes that he can make people forget the worst performance of his career—in last year's Rose Bowl. USC lost to Michigan State, 20-17, and Peete had trouble hanging onto the ball most of the game. The Trojans failed in their final bid for a comeback when Peete fumbled a snap deep in Spartan territory.

"It's hard to put that out of your mind until you play another football game," he said. "It makes you hungry and work harder so it doesn't happen again."

It was the lowlight of what has been a

Continued

COLOR BARRIER

brilliant career. He owns 12 school records, including USC's career passing marks for yardage (5,413) and completions (407). He connected on 60.1 percent of his passes for 2,460 yards and 19 touchdowns to rank fourth in I-A in passing efficiency last year. His rushing statistics are not outstanding, but because of his 4.5-second speed in the 40-yard dash, he was sacked only nine times in 1987.

Peete believes he will be drafted next year as a quarterback. But if things don't go his way, Peete has another option—major league baseball.

Peete, a third baseman, was batting .340 with seven home runs and 28 runs batted in midway through the Trojans' season. He was on quite a tear despite missing several games with a broken bone in his throwing hand. The hand is healed and should not affect him in 1988.

"It's hard to say what I'm going to do now," Peete said. "I could play quarterback. That's been a dream of mine for a long time. On the other hand, I could see myself playing major league baseball."

★ ★ ★

During his first practice as a freshman at Litcher (La.) High School, a predominantly white school, Terrence Jones instinctively walked to the wide receiver line. He didn't want to make waves.

But his coach, who was white, told Jones to move over with the quarterbacks.

"I was the first black (quarterback) at the high school," he said. "I was very hesitant. Would I have a chance? Would they let me? Would they say something or do something to discourage me? But none of that happened."

It didn't happen because his potential was obvious. He accounted for 5,456 yards of total offense and 58 touchdowns in his high school career and then went to Tulane, where he has continued to rack up big numbers.

Jones, a 6-foot-1, 207-pound senior, is perhaps the nation's best all-purpose quarterback. As a junior, he completed 60.2 percent of his passes for 2,551 yards and 20 TDs and rushed for 383 yards and eight TDs. In the process, he became the Green Wave's all-time total offense leader with 6,686 yards.

Now that he is such a highly rated player, Jones doesn't want other young blacks to shy away from opportunities as he did during that freshman practice in high school. He points to Doug Williams and a number of college players as role models.

"Any black quarterback with ambition can become a great college or pro quarterback," he said. "He has to work constantly. That's what I try to do, and you'll always come out the better."

He spent much of his time as a youngster studying former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach.

"I watched a lot of TV and studied how he released the ball," Jones said. "Little



Vanderbilt's Eric Jones was Division I-A's fifth-leading passer and his team's leading rusher last season.

bitty things stuck in my mind. Every time I drop back to release the football, I remember visually the scene on television."

But Jones doesn't always pass. Running gives him that extra edge.

"Defenses are faster and better and they need a quarterback—now he doesn't have to be black—who can run and throw it," Jones said. "The drop-back quarterback is dying. The defensive backs stay back and the offensive line can hold 'em out only so long."

★ ★ ★

Steve Taylor doesn't want to be called a black quarterback.

He'd rather be known as a quarterback who happens to be black. After all, we never hear about black wide receivers or black defensive backs. And too many stereotypes are tagged on black quarterbacks—namely, that they can run, but they can't pass worth a lick.

The fear of being stereotyped is a major reason why Taylor is reluctant to speak on the subject.

"The fact is people just see us as black quarterbacks," Taylor said. "We are black and we play that position, but I don't want to be stereotyped. It is something that I don't think will go away."

"I'd rather be referred to as a running

quarterback or passing quarterback."

OK, Taylor is a running quarterback. He can be an effective passer, but his running is showcased in the Cornhusker ground attack.

"You have to be able to do both," the 6-foot, 195-pound senior said. "We have to be able to throw the ball, although we have one of the best offensive lines in the nation and have talented backs. I feel that I can drop back 50 times and throw and that I could also run 20 to 30 times."

"Coaches are moving away from the stable, immobile quarterback. If you don't have an excellent line, you could get in a lot of trouble. If you are not limited, you can do more things offensively."

Taylor does plenty. He rushed for 659 yards last year, a school record for quarterbacks, and scored eight touchdowns. He also passed for 902 yards and 13 touchdowns—not bad for a team that keeps the ball on the ground most of the time.

In a showdown with UCLA's Troy Aikman, Taylor threw five TD passes while leading the Huskers to a 42-33 victory. Obviously, he can pass the ball.

"I came from a passing attack in high school," said Taylor, who threw the ball 25 to 30 times a game at Abraham Lincoln High School in San Diego. "But I can play



West Virginia's Major Harris expected to play college basketball because he didn't think any major college would give him a chance at quarterback.

any skill position offensively on the field."

Of the 70 schools that recruited him, 50 said they would give him a shot at quarterback, he said. Many white quarterbacks hear those same numbers, so Taylor didn't feel discriminated against.

But Taylor knows he is under a microscope because of his race. He doesn't mind.

"We have to (play well)," he said. "People pay closer attention to us just because we are black."

★ ★ ★

Eric Jones learned about leadership and discipline under his father, Andrew Jones, an Air Force master sergeant.

He became a better athlete playing football with his older brothers. They allowed him to play quarterback against older and more mature boys on Atlanta's playgrounds.

And he learned to win under Coach William Godfrey at Southwest DeKalb High School in Decatur, Ga.

Jones knew early on that he would be a quarterback who did more than throw. As a freshman, he ran a wishbone offense. Then under Godfrey, Jones became the school's first black varsity quarterback, running a wing-T offense in which he threw for 2,671 yards and 24 touchdowns

as a senior.

"That (being the first black quarterback) was a major accomplishment," Jones said. "But there were no big problems. My two older brothers always told me I was a leader."

Jones found little discouragement along the way. And if there was, he chose to ignore it. He had a supportive family that picked him up when he was down.

The 6-2, 197-pound senior has a similar relationship with his Vanderbilt teammates, he said. The Commodores have no animosities following a black—especially one who moves the offense the way he does. As Division I-A's fifth-leading passer and his team's leading rusher last year, Jones gave Vanderbilt fans little to complain about.

"I came up through the ranks," he said. "I just didn't pop up on the scene. You've just got to get to know the guys. When I'm on the field, I have a super amount of control. There are other leaders on the field, too. But I feel everybody respects me and wants to listen to what I have to say."

★ ★ ★

Major Harris expected to play college basketball because he didn't think any major college would give him a chance to play quarterback—the only position he'd

BLACK STARTERS

Following is an alphabetical listing of black quarterbacks who are expected to start in 1988:

Demetrius Brown, Jr., Michigan
Darnell Dickerson, Soph., Pittsburgh
Quinn Grovey, Soph., Arkansas
Major Harris, Soph., West Virginia
Jamel Holieway, Sr., Oklahoma
Travis Hunter, Jr., East Carolina
Wayne Johnson, Sr., Georgia
Eric Jones, Sr., Vanderbilt
Terrence Jones, Sr., Tulane
Bobby McAllister, Sr., Michigan St.
Brian Mitchell, Jr., SW Louisiana
Shawn Moore, Soph., Virginia
Rodney Peete, Sr., Southern Cal
Tony Rice, Jr., Notre Dame
Reggie Slack, Jr., Auburn
Marshall Taylor, Sr., Northern Illinois
Steve Taylor, Sr., Nebraska
Charles Thompson, Soph., Oklahoma
Ronald Veal, Soph., Arizona
Andre Ware, Soph., Houston
Patrick Young, Soph., Kent State

consider playing.

But Harris discovered a number of schools with black quarterbacks. Those were the only schools on his recruiting list.

"That proved to me that they had no hang-ups about having a black at quarterback," he said.

Still, some schools wanted Harris to play defensive back, a position he had never played.

"It was discouraging," Harris said. "They never looked at game films of me. They just heard of me and wanted me to play defensive back. Why not give me an opportunity?"

Harris' first opportunity had come from his brothers.

"When I was little, I used to play with my older brothers," Harris said. "They saw something in me. I was young, but my arm was just as strong as the older fellas'.

"In ninth grade, I didn't go out for football because I didn't think the coach would let me play quarterback."

But word circulated around Brashear High School in Pittsburgh about a young phenom with a good arm and shifty moves. Harris started two years on the varsity and chose football over basketball to play at West Virginia.

Harris, a 6-1, 215-pound redshirt sophomore, is known in Morgantown for his quick feet and strong arm. He led the Mountaineers to the 1987 Sun Bowl, after which he had totals of 615 yards rushing and 1,200 yards passing. He vows to throw the ball more this season.

"I actually don't like to run the ball," he said. "I ran a lot last year because I was scared."

Not anymore. With a year's experience under his belt, he is ready to join the nation's elite quarterbacks. And he knows he'll have the support of his teammates.

"Whether the guy is black or white, these guys get behind that guy," Harris said. "These guys are hungry." ■

BORN TO

Unselfish and intelligent, Pittsburgh's Mark Stepnoski and Penn State's Steve Wisniewski are naturals for the part

By PHIL AXELROD
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The locker at the far end of the row at Pitt Stadium is enclosed in glass as a monument to Bill Fralic, whose former jersey, number 79, still hangs there alongside the cleats and helmet he wore as a Panther.

Six mornings a week, Mark Stepnoski walks past the locker on his way to the weight room, where the shiny barbells glisten. Sometimes he sneaks a glance at the cubicle that once belonged to Fralic, but usually he doesn't notice.

The memory of Fralic, however, is never far away for Stepnoski, the latest in an impressive line of outstanding offensive linemen to wear the Pittsburgh uniform in the last decade. It started with Outland Trophy winner Mark May and Russ Grimm, continued with Jimbo Covert, Jim Sweeney, Fralic and Randy Dixon and also included such pros as Emil Boures, Ron Sams and Rob Fada.

"That means a lot to me," Stepnoski said, his eyes focused on number 79. "It's a symbol, a testament to what kind of person he is, and is an example of what can be accomplished."

Fralic's jersey is one of four encased in glass in the Pitt locker room. Also preserved are Tony Dorsett's number 33, Dan Marino's number 13 and Hugh Green's number 99. It's not often that an offensive lineman finds himself in such select company, but the monstrous Fralic earned the distinction with a brilliant four-year career in the early 1980s.

"It seems pretty fair to me," Stepnoski said with a smile. "Pitt is known for offensive linemen."

That legacy is one of the main reasons why Stepnoski, a 6-foot-3, 265-pound senior, is at Pitt.

"You can feel the tradition here," he said. "I'm part of that tradition. That means a lot to me."

Buddy Morris, the Panthers' feisty strength coach, said Pitt provides a unique situation for offensive linemen.

"If you're an offensive lineman at Pitt," he said, "you can walk in here and see the tradition. You can see a Fralic, a Covert, a Sweeney in person working out in the summer. They all come back. This place is like an NFL reunion. They don't come back for camaraderie. They come back to work."

Morris thinks Stepnoski could be the best of the bunch.

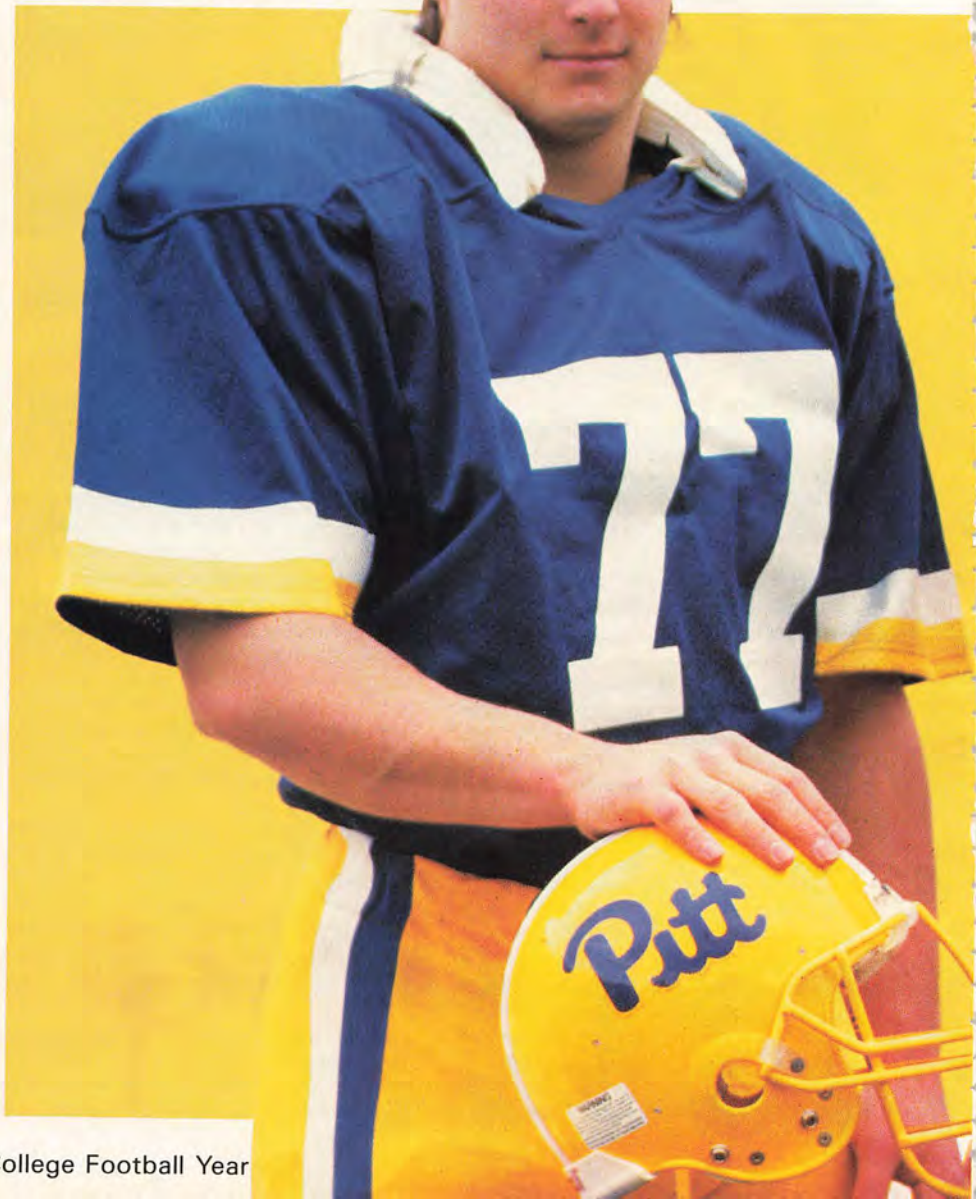
"If you could take Jimbo's quietness, Fralic's rage, the toughness of Grimm and put them in one pot and shake it up, out would come Stepnoski," he said.

★ ★ ★

Approximately 140 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, across the Laurel Mountain range and through the wilderness of central Pennsylvania, is Happy Valley, the home of Penn State's Nittany Lions. Six days a week—never on Sunday—Steve

Wisniewski trudges into the weight room. Wisniewski, a hard-working, 6-4, 270-pound senior guard, is Penn State's answer to Stepnoski.

"You're doing a story on us?" Wisniewski asked, somewhat stunned by the thought that he and Stepnoski might ac-



BLOCK

usually escape the anonymity that usually enshrouds offensive linemen.

No one works harder and gets less credit than offensive linemen. So it is a surprise when interviewers seek them out—particularly at Penn State, which has become as famous for its steady stream of linebackers as Pitt has for its blockers.

"You've got to be willing not to get much credit around here," Wisniewski said with a laugh. "Not too many people in this area even know

I'm on the team. . . . You have to be kind of humble if you're an offensive lineman at Penn State. I'm kind of used to that."

Wisniewski, however, is not used to being mentioned in the same sentence with other All-Americans, a distinction he earned last season.

"I feel a little bit honored to be put in that category," he said. "I don't think of myself as that. I don't dwell on it. There are about 100 guys who could be there. But when I watch the better ones in the country, I think that I could do that."

Because Pitt and Penn State play so many of the same teams, Wisniewski often watches the Panthers on film.

"I watch Mark in particular," he said. "We pretty much look alike. I've been called a Mark Stepnoski look-alike."

What's the biggest difference be-

tween offensive linemen at Pitt and Penn State?

"At Penn State, they make us run back to the huddle," he said, grinning. "At Pitt, they take their time."

★ ★ ★

What is an offensive lineman?

"He's an intelligent kid," said Bill Meyers, Pitt's offensive line coach, "because . . . you have to make instant decisions."

"He has to be self-motivated and unselfish. It's a position that requires the realization that there's not going to be a lot of instant gratification. It's a blue-collar position."

Meyers thought a moment before adding, "Mark Stepnoski is a natural offensive lineman."

If some people are born to block, then Stepnoski and Wisniewski fit that description.

"The offensive line is kind of a place of last resort; if you can't play anywhere else, they put you there," Wisniewski said. "The wilder guys do all the talking; they're on the defensive line. You can't have much of an ego on the offensive line. It's not that glamorous."

Not that Wisniewski is complaining, although members of his breed have been known to do that.

"Offensive linemen, by nature, are the biggest complainers in football," Meyers said. "They're always griping, but it's in fun. They see themselves as martyrs. Nobody loves them. You know who they were as kids—the fat little kid who was stuck out in right field in Little League, the goalie in soccer and an offensive lineman in football."

Stepnoski laughed when he heard Meyers' description of the unsung grunts up front.

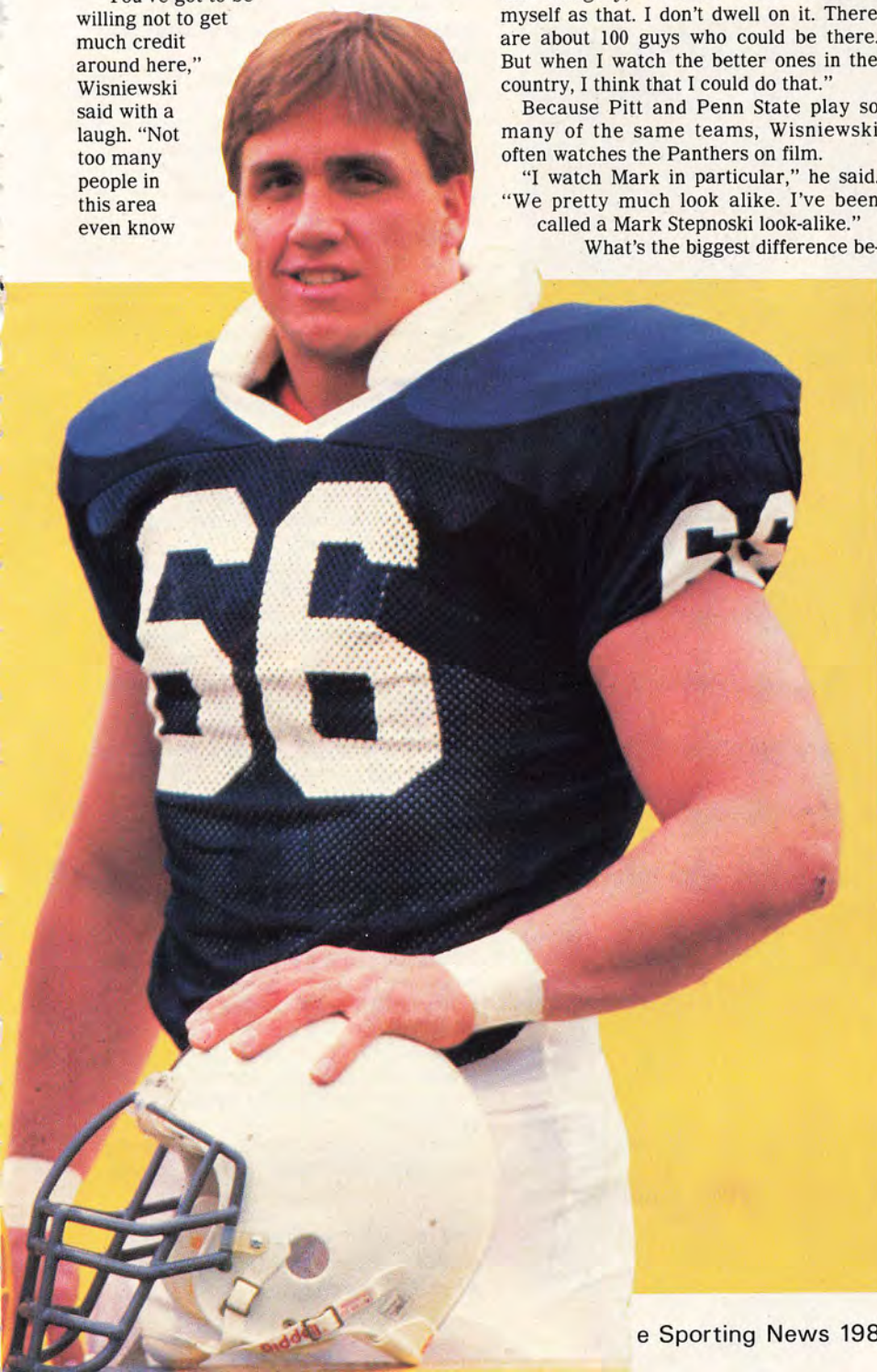
"If I could have Dan Marino's arm, I'd be taking snaps tomorrow. No doubt about it," he said. "But I've always been one of the larger kids, and they always take the big guys and stick them on the line."

Inside the body of Wisniewski lurks a shifty halfback, a strong-armed quarterback or a surehanded receiver trying to get out.

"I'd love to be a fullback," he said with a sigh, "but what can you do? I guess I've always been an offensive lineman. I guess I always will."

Continued

Mention the Outland Trophy and among the first names that come to mind are guards Mark Stepnoski (left) and Steve Wisniewski.



BORN

Offensive linemen often are depicted as big, dumb jocks who have been hit upside the helmet by a well-thrown forearm a few too many times. Such is the reputation of players who do not man the so-called skill positions. In reality, offensive linemen often are among the most intelligent players on the field.

Stepnoski and Wisniewski are no exceptions. They hit the books as hard as the weights. Stepnoski, an academic All-America as a sophomore, has maintained a B-plus grade average as a communications major. Wisniewski has similar marks in marketing.

"The way we practice, in general, carries over somewhat in the way we handle ourselves off the field," Wisniewski said. "At Penn State, they get on us, train us to be disciplined in the classroom, too. It really is tough sometimes, especially when you come back after a long day of football so tired, but I haven't had too much of a problem."

Neither has Stepnoski, who neglects neither his studies nor his training.

"Spending so much time with football hasn't hurt me," he said. "I acquired pretty decent study habits in high school. Probably the hardest part is trying to put a schedule together. I don't schedule classes early in the morning because that's when I like to lift."

A passion for weight lifting is another characteristic

of those who excel in the trenches.

"Pitt linemen have always been aggressive, and a lot of that stems from the weight room," said Stepnoski, who started lifting in grade school and then got serious about it in high school. "Lifting brings a lot of aggressiveness out of you. We spend a lot of time in the weight room because one of the main things you need to play the position is above-average strength."

"For us, it's fun. We enjoy lifting. I know it's going to make me a better player. There are tangible rewards. You can see what it's doing to you. You can measure your improvement. There's a sense of accomplishment."

But Stepnoski doesn't spend his time prancing in front of a mirror, admiring his physique.

"The idea isn't to look good," he said. "The incentive is to become a better player."

Morris said that's the only incentive Stepnoski needs.

"Mark is a laid-back person," he said. "I really don't have to challenge him. He knows what he has to do, and he does it. He's a step ahead of everybody else; he knows what it takes."

Just like Fralic did.

"Mark's a very driven athlete," Morris said. "Like Fralic, he lumbers around here, a quiet giant. He has a controlled rage that makes him a tremendously different person on the field."

Stepnoski, who can bench-press 470 pounds, is the strongest player on the team.

"He'll be the first guy we've ever had to do 500 pounds," Meyers said. "He's one of the top three in full-squats—600 pounds. When it comes to lifting, he's out there on an island by himself."

Wisniewski, who bench-presses 475 pounds, said he doesn't know if he is the Nittany Lions' strongest player.

"But it's a good bet that I'm one of them," he said.

Like Stepnoski, Wisniewski lifts to make himself a better football player.

"I love to lift weights," he said. "I've been doing it since my sophomore year in high school, and I only do it because I enjoy it. It helps my football..."

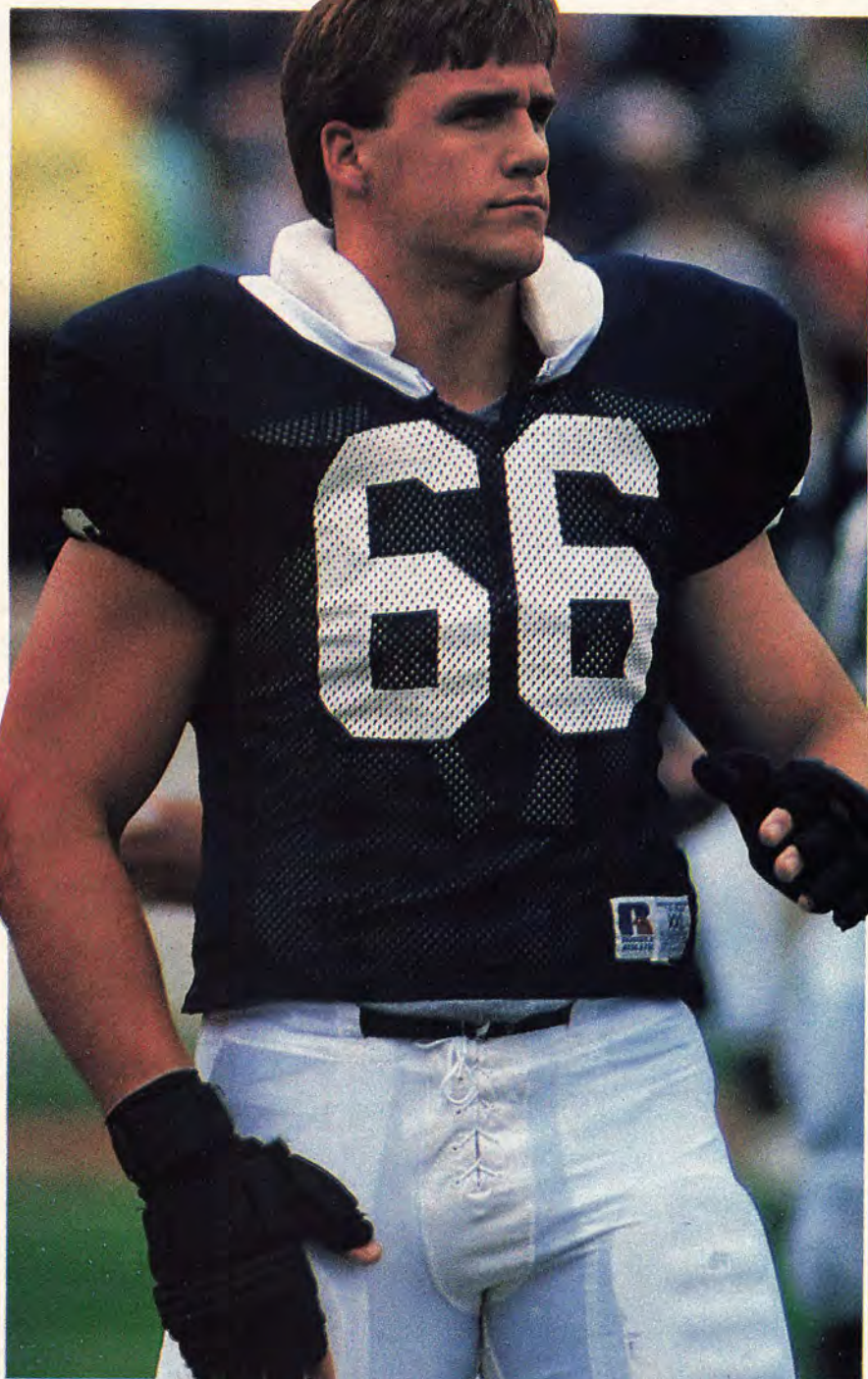
"You feel good about yourself after you've lifted. It's a good way to vent your anxieties."

Wisniewski has added 15 pounds since last season—and not by stuffing himself with pizzas and hoagies.

"I'm just starting to fill in," he said. "It's good weight. I've been eating everything in sight, but I don't eat junk food or anything like that. I'm careful about not getting too big. It's Penn State's philosophy to always have offensive linemen on diets. They want their offensive linemen on the lighter side."

Nick Gasparato, Penn State's offensive line coach, said Wisniewski has tremen-

Not a rah-rah screamer, Wisniewski's eyes display his intensity when he's on the field.



dous work habits.

"He takes super care of his body," he said. "He's always in good shape. He takes care of himself year-round; that's part of his life style. He's very committed to the game of football."

Though it's not always easy to tell what Wisniewski is thinking.

"He's a tough kid to read," Gasparato said. "He's very quiet, not a rah-rah screamer. But you can see it in his eyes when he's on the field. He takes a lot of pride in his football."

"After he's hit somebody, you can see a little smile on his face. He knocks you on your butt and then picks you up. He's a mean, tough kid during the play, but when the whistle blows, he's a gentleman."

★ ★ ★

Leo Wisniewski was a standout defensive tackle for the Nittany Lions in 1979-80. That was why most people expected Steve to attend Penn State.

That also was why Steve almost didn't attend Penn State.

"I was a little hesitant to follow in my brother's footsteps," he said. "I didn't want any comparisons."

Steve never was compared to his brother in high school because the family moved from Fox Chapel, a suburb of Pittsburgh where Leo had played prep football, to Houston when Steve was about 10. He earned all-star status as a two-way lineman at Westfield High School.

Though high school football is big in western Pennsylvania, where the small towns rally around their teams every Friday night in the fall, it borders on a religious experience in Texas.

"They make a big deal out of football in both states," he added, "but you get a little more publicity down in Texas."

Wisniewski's recruitment was a big deal in Texas, where recruiters from Southwest Conference schools were calling him daily.

"I visited Arkansas and Texas Christian," he said, "but I really wasn't interested in Texas schools. The Southwest Conference wasn't doing so well."

Wisniewski's first choice was Virginia.

"I felt Virginia was the school I wanted to go to," Wisniewski said. "But because Leo had gone to Penn State, I became a Penn State fan pretty early. After a while I realized that Penn State was where I felt the most at home."

Wisniewski also liked Coach Joe Paterno's coaching style—"basic, sound football," he calls it—and even the Nittany Lions' no-frills, blue-and-white uniforms with black high-top shoes.

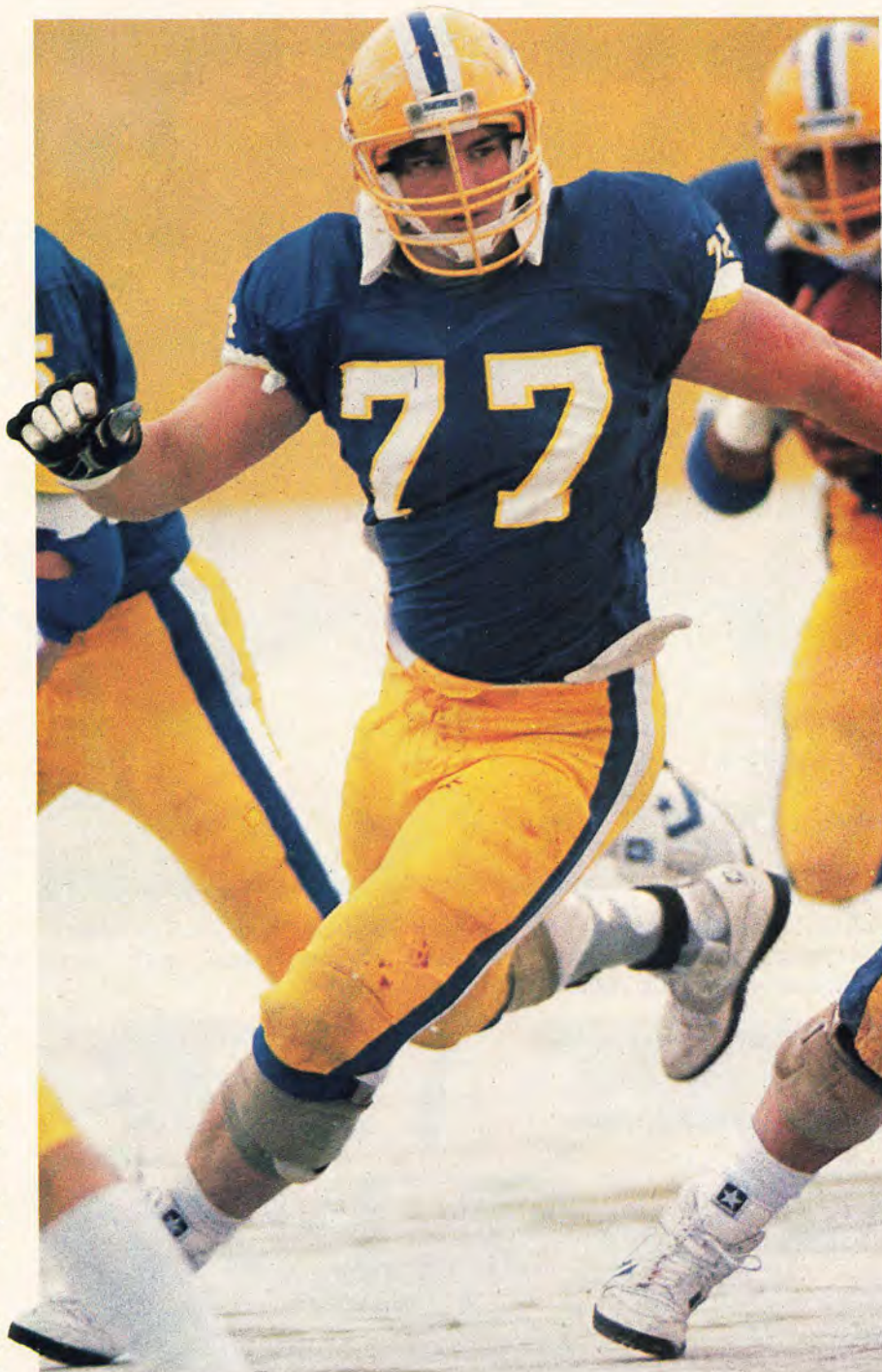
"Some people think they're ugly," he said. "I don't. I like them."

Still, Wisniewski was a hard sell.

"He never was in the bag, so to speak," said Gasparato, who spent many sleepless nights back then.

Unlike Wisniewski, Stepnoski didn't hesitate when it came time to choose a college.

"It never was a debate for me," said Stepnoski, who used to drive 20 miles from his home in Erie, Pa., to watch the Panthers practice at Edinboro University



Stepnoski plays with great leverage and is an explosive blocker.

before each season. "I always knew I was coming to Pitt."

Nevertheless, Stepnoski made a recruiting trip to Notre Dame.

"I did that for Mom," he said. "She wanted me to go there."

Stepnoski, an all-state performer at Cathedral Prep School, was the "first person to verbally commit to Pitt that year," he recalled proudly.

"I was always impressed with Pitt," he said. "I usually made it down to the stadium each year to watch Pitt play. Pitt was one of the top teams in the country, going 11-1 three straight years."

★ ★ ★

Mention the Outland Trophy and among the first names that come to mind are

Stepnoski and Wisniewski.

"Mark is a dominant lineman because of his size and great strength," Meyers said. "He plays with great leverage. He's an explosive blocker, and his ability to pass-block is second to none. He can be an Outland Trophy winner."

A strong season that finished with him being recognized as the nation's top interior lineman would be satisfying for Stepnoski, who spent a lot of time in the whirlpool last year. Nagging injuries caused his 1987 performance to fall short of high expectations. He suffered a sprained ankle in the season opener, then sat out the fourth game after aggravating the injury.

Continued

BORN



Unlike Stepnoski (above), who has been receiving rave reviews almost from the moment he put on a Pitt uniform, Wisniewski burst on the scene last season after being almost a virtual unknown.



He later reinjured the ankle and suffered a bruised thigh. To cap off his woes, Stepnoski was forced to leave the sixth game with a pinched nerve in his neck.

"From a personal standpoint, last year was a bit disappointing for Mark," Meyers said. "But he found out about himself, that he could play with pain and work through it. It was an educational experience."

Stepnoski agreed.

"It was frustrating because I couldn't play to the level I normally do," said Stepnoski, whose 4.88-second speed in the 40-yard dash is exceptional for a man his size. "Something was holding me back. It was a lesson. Hopefully it will never happen again."

Stepnoski is hoping to make up for the time lost to injuries last fall.

"That should give me a little more incentive to excel this year," he said. "My goal isn't to win the Outland Trophy. It's to be the best football player I can be. I'll do everything I can to play in the NFL."

A pro career seems likely for Stepnoski, who has been receiving rave reviews almost from the moment he put on a Pitt uniform. After watching Stepnoski play as a freshman, West Virginia Coach Don Nehlen rubbed his eyes in disbelief. "No way he's a freshman," he said. "He's the best offensive guard I've ever seen. He's unbelievable."

Said Navy Coach Elliot Uzelac: "I think he's one of the best linemen we've seen in a long time."

Panthers Coach Mike Gottfried has yet to see someone better.

"I can't say he's the best lineman ever at Pitt because I wasn't here for those other great players," he said. "But he's the best I've ever been around in my years of coaching."

Unlike Stepnoski, who has been groomed for stardom the last three years, Wisniewski burst on the scene as a junior, earning All-America acclaim after being almost a virtual unknown as a sophomore.

"It was a good year for me personally, but it was frustrating as far as the team went (8-3)," he said. "I got a lot better. I gained a little size."

Gasparato said Wisniewski established his credentials as one of the best in the country with a stellar performance against Bill Romanowski, Boston College's highly touted linebacker.

"That game sticks out in my mind," Gasparato said. "Wisniewski certainly is one of the better players I've been around, and I've been around Sean Farrell and Mike Munchak. He's in that class of football player."

While Wisniewski appreciates all the praise and recognition, he doesn't dwell on it.

"The Outland really isn't on my mind," he said. "I'm not looking for this or that honor. I'm just looking to have a good year."

Spoken like a true offensive lineman. ■

ELECTRIC NERIC

*Don't be shocked if Texas tailback
Eric Metcalf runs off with the Heisman*



Eric Metcalf is the nation's premier all-purpose back.

By KIRK BOHLS
Austin American-Statesman

His hands get clammy, his throat scratchy. His legs begin to wobble, and Eric Metcalf's deep voice becomes a bit raspy. All the preparation in the world seems almost useless when it comes time for the University of Texas senior to perform.

The nervous tension he feels has nothing to do with the rush of adrenaline he gets before a football game. No, the Longhorn tailback can cope with that pressure. This other dilemma, though, grips him tighter than any linebacker could.

Making a speech.

Metcalf readily admits that he isn't the most loquacious speaker ever to stand behind a podium. Oh, the six-minute informative speech he made as a freshman on the proper techniques of long jumping came easily enough, but most NCAA long jump champions—like Metcalf was—probably could have done the same.

But Speech 319 and Speech 305K held more fear for him than a Texas A&M defense that tries to embed him into the artificial turf every November. "I have to get used to wanting to stand up and talk," Metcalf said a bit uncomfortably. "I don't mind talking in front of people, but I have to want to do it."

There is one speech he desperately wants to make. He insists he hasn't spent hours rehearsing it in front of his mirror in his Jester Center dorm room, but he'd love nothing better than to get that tickly throat before a speech this December.

It's an acceptance speech, one he would have to deliver in front of a national TV audience and a packed house at the Downtown Athletic Club in New York City. It would make his task easier if he had something to hold onto for emotional support—say, a Heisman Trophy.

Entering the 1988 season, the 5-foot-9, 178-pound Metcalf is the top returning running back in the Southwest Conference and one of a handful of candidates favored to take home the prize bestowed upon the nation's best college football player.

To have a shot at the trophy, Metcalf first had to do some Seoul-searching. He decided that he would make football his first priority, relegating his hopes of going to South Korea with the 1988 U.S. Olympic

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ERIC

team to second place. As a long jumper whose personal best of 27 feet, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch was the longest jump at the collegiate championships in 1986, he still falls a little short of the Carl Lewises and Mike Conleys of the track world.

"I do want to go to the Olympic Trials just to say I went," Metcalf said, "but I think I'd rather play football. It'd be tough to see someone win the Heisman because I didn't play. All the Heisman hype would be gone."

Not everyone wishes he'd pass over a chance at the Olympics so lightly, including his father, Terry Metcalf, the former National Football League Most Valuable Player with the St. Louis Cardinals.

"I kind of wish he'd try for the Olympics because it's a once-in-a-lifetime deal," said Terry Metcalf, a 25-foot long jumper himself who once aspired to compete in the Olympics. "I know the Heisman has a lot to do with it, but I don't think the Olympics would do anything but enhance his notoriety. It'd be one more feather in his cap."

His cap may not be able to hold many more. He was a consensus All-SWC running back last year and, on many lists, the



The elusive Metcalf is in his own element when returning punts.

league's Offensive Player of the Year.

The elder Metcalf understands the allure of the Heisman. As a junior at Long Beach State, Terry led the nation in touchdowns (29, a Division II record) and rushing (1,673 yards) and felt he deserved the trophy more than Auburn's Pat Sullivan, the 1971 winner.

"Barring injury and if the team does well," Terry said, "I think he's got a good chance."

With the departures of 1987 winner Tim Brown as well as such competitors as Lorenzo White, Jamie Morris and Craig Heyward, Eric's stock has risen dramatically. But he is more than a little leery of the hype and hoopla that surround the Heisman race. He wants to be part of it, of course, but he could do without the pre-season buildup. He'd prefer to just get right down to business. If he could've had his way, the 1988 season would have started the day after he ran for 95 yards in Texas' 32-27 victory over Pittsburgh in the 1987 Bluebonnet Bowl.

"I want to play—right now," said Metcalf, who rushed for 1,161 yards and totaled 1,925 all-purpose yards to rank third in the nation last season. "Before I start making speeches."

Still, the Heisman has dominated his thoughts since he ran for more than 1,000 yards in each of his last two seasons at Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington, Va. He accounted for 35 touchdowns in those two years, and of his 17 TDs as a senior, only four came on runs of less than 40 yards.

After high school, Eric came within 10 minutes of signing with Miami (Fla.), although both of his parents were urging him to attend Notre Dame for academic reasons. But the snow in Indiana set back the Fighting Irish, and the lack of a top track program hurt both schools' chances. So, he opted for Texas a week after the national signing date.

In three years at Texas, where he began his college career by returning a punt 90 yards to the end zone against Missouri, only to be told he had stepped out of bounds after a 53-yard runback, little has occurred to sway Metcalf from that early goal of winning the Heisman.

"I used to think about it all the time," he said, "but I didn't know how realistic it was. Even my freshman year at Texas, I was telling people that after I played, they were going to have to change the (model for the) Heisman Trophy to someone catching punts."

If he trembles at the prospect of giving a speech, he is in his own element when returning punts. He never even signaled for a fair catch in his entire high school career. His primary responsibility as a freshman in 1985 was returning punts and kickoffs, averaging 9.5 yards per punt return and 19.5 yards per kick return. He totaled 1,091 all-purpose yards, including a 71-yard touchdown run against Texas Christian and an 80-yard TD reception against Rice.

The Longhorns started utilizing Metcalf as a receiver out of the backfield in a big way in 1986, when he caught 42 passes for 556 yards. But his punt-return average dropped to 9.1 yards and he rushed for only 310 yards on 92 carries. He was not yet a top all-purpose back.

Metcalf put it all together as a junior last fall. Besides his 1,161-yard rushing total, which was surpassed last year in the SWC by only the departed Tony Jeffery of TCU and in Longhorn history by just two other runners, Metcalf also rushed for 10 touchdowns, caught 33 passes and

averaged 18.4 yards on 11 kickoff returns. He also returned 24 punts for 324 yards, giving him a 13.5-yard average that ranked sixth best in Division I-A, and ran back one for a touchdown. He won't be happy this year unless he returns two kicks for scores.

He also would be satisfied with another 1,000-yard rushing season, but he is aiming for 1,500 yards. Only one Longhorn—Earl Campbell in 1977—has exceeded that total, and he won the Heisman that year.

Other goals include 15 touchdowns and two receptions for scores. In Texas' last-second, 16-14 upset of Arkansas last year, Metcalf caught a school-record 11 passes, but his favorite reception wasn't his. He particularly enjoyed quarterback Bret Stafford's touchdown pass to Tony Jones on the game's final play.

"The Arkansas players were telling us we'd played a good game, but we'd lost," Metcalf recalled. "I enjoyed how we won that game."

Despite that emotional victory, the Longhorns finished second to Texas A&M in the SWC race. That didn't sit too well with Metcalf, who expected to be playing somewhere other than the Bluebonnet Bowl.

"I thought we were going to the Cotton Bowl. You couldn't tell me different," said Metcalf, whose postseason honors were diminished because of Texas' 6-5 record and blowout losses to Auburn and Oklahoma on national television. "We kind of gave away the Auburn game. We should

have won every other game, including OU. You could tell they were down, their defense was tired. And we thought BYU (a 22-17 victor over the Longhorns) was going to be easy."

He understands nothing will come easy to him this year, which should be a change of pace. After all, at age 7, Metcalf joined an organized football league for 8-year-olds and once scored 10 touchdowns in a game.

Second-year Coach David McWilliams can hardly wait to see what Metcalf can do in just his second full season at tailback. Former coach Fred Akers used him at flanker, split end, slotback and running back before McWilliams decided to put him in one spot for good.

"He never got into a spot where he was comfortable before," McWilliams said. "But I think he's the best. He's a runner, a receiver, a kick returner, and I don't know if I've ever seen a guy work as hard as he does in practice. He'll even correct somebody on the scout team so he'll get the right picture for the game."

If Metcalf does capture the Heisman, he'll become only the second Longhorn to do so. He has made one or two visits to the T Room inside Memorial Stadium, where the Heisman won by Campbell is displayed.

"Earl calls it 'that bronze man,'" Metcalf said. "He's told me people are going to talk about everything, but I hope I don't talk about it too much and have a bad season."

The styles of the two running backs couldn't be more different. The 6-foot-1, 225-pound Campbell was a powerful fullback in the wishbone until Akers switched him to tailback in the I-formation in Akers' first season. Metcalf lacks Campbell's bulk but is an elusive runner. He has just 5.9 percent body fat and the stop-start moves of a hummingbird. His incredible acceleration allows him to leave tacklers grabbing air.

"He put more moves on in one play than some backs do in a whole season," said TCU Coach Jim Wacker, recalling a particularly impressive run that contributed to Metcalf's 206-yard rushing total against the Horned Frogs last year.

"I can't believe a guy that small is that tough," Campbell said. "He has a large desire. To me, he never looks like he's running. He reminds me of Tony Dorsett, the way he can take a lick and speed up."

Sometimes, though, he takes a lick and goes down simply because he isn't big enough to overpower 240-pound defensive ends and linebackers. His one flaw might be the failure to bulk up more. He doesn't enjoy weight lifting, and he had the weakest bench press of his freshman class. Though he wanders into the Texas weight room on occasion, he jokes that his teammates ask him if he is lost.

What Metcalf lacks in strength, he compensates for with speed, quick feet and desire. McWilliams recalls one play

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against TCU in which Metcalf gained 20 yards when it looked as if he would be thrown for a loss.

"I'll bet they missed eight tackles," he said. "We didn't block a soul. You've got to watch his feet. On the film, you see him in the stack of bodies, and his feet are going 90 miles an hour."

Perhaps Metcalf's size works to his advantage, causing defenders to take him lightly.

"I love it when somebody tells me I won't break a long run," Metcalf said. "After I had a 43-yard run against Pitt, they told me I wouldn't break another one. I had one for 24 yards or so. I consider that a break."

That electrifying break for a touchdown in the Bluebonnet Bowl was "one of the most successful runs I've ever seen in college athletics," Campbell said. "He just made people trip over themselves."

Campbell would have just plowed right over them.

"Earl said he used to tell people, 'Hop on and get a ride,'" Metcalf said. "I'll tell them, 'You'll have to miss this bus.'"

Though their styles are different, Metcalf is hoping that the result will be the same—success for both the team (the Longhorns went 11-0 in 1977) and himself (a Heisman). Ironically, Campbell wasn't the most glib recipient of the Heisman. When it came time to make his acceptance speech, he nervously asked his mother for help, telling the audience, "I'm in trouble."

Metcalf surely would be able to empathize.

"I know Eric wants it bad," said Campbell, who now serves as a special assistant to the Texas vice president. "I told Eric, 'You're to the point where the rest of your life, you're going to be like a fish in a fish-bowl.' I got tired of all the talk that year. My name wasn't just Earl Campbell. It became 'Earl Campbell for the Heisman.'"

That would be nothing new for Eric Metcalf, Son of Terry Metcalf. He has worn that label since the days when his father became an all-purpose star for the Cardinals in the mid-1970s and then the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League.

Not that he has ever objected. Their form is almost identical, although Eric said his dad was quicker and he is faster.

"It's to be expected to be compared to him," Eric said. "But if I am, I must be doing something right."

Eric's parents never married or even lived together. He lived with his mother in Seattle through his freshman year of high school. He then moved in with his father in Virginia, where Terry was living while closing out his career with the Washington Redskins. But Eric never will be confused as a product of a broken home. He is an easygoing, extremely likable person



Metcalf, the 1986 NCAA long jump champion, decided to make football his first priority, passing over a chance at the Olympics.

with a level-headed maturity.

Metcalf—or "Calf," as he is called—also is disciplined, although he has had to bear down academically after almost becoming ineligible a year ago.

A degree for his son is an important priority for Terry Metcalf, who never graduated from Long Beach State and is now attending classes at Howard University. The 36-year-old Metcalf also is working with a non-profit, drug prevention group called SUPER Teams, which stands for Students United with Pros Encouraging Responsibility. He joined the group founded by former Redskin Brig Owens after a brush with drugs that Terry openly admits.

Eric's devotion to his father was tested when Eric returned home during spring break of his freshman year, the same night that Terry was arrested for possession of half a gram of cocaine. Terry was later handed a two-year suspended sentence and underwent rehabilitation in a New York City clinic.

"Eric has been one of my biggest supporters," Terry said. "I think he learned it (trouble) can happen if you don't have discipline in your life. I'd been telling him, 'School, school, school,' but he would tend not to hear. I think the realization hit him then."

Eric, who said he does not drink and has never done drugs of any kind, was asked to come to the rehab center. He participated in a group discussion along with his father, stepmother, a counselor, other patients and their family members.

"Everybody in there had to say something," Eric recalled softly. "I had to speak. I talked about how my dad asked me to come to see what it was like if I ever got into that situation. It had an effect on me and made me sure I didn't want to turn to drugs."

"I didn't know what to say. I just tried to make it short and sweet."

Of course, making speeches is something Eric still has to work on. He just hopes he gets plenty of practice. ■

RISING TO THE OCCASION

Pressure situations don't faze Iowa quarterback Chuck Hartlieb

By MARK DUKES
Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Gazette

Playing quarterback is a job for deep-thinkers. Learning the position requires a patient, brilliant teacher and an industrious, apt student.

As Plato was to Aristotle, so Chuck Long was to Chuck Hartlieb. Deep-thinking, indeed.

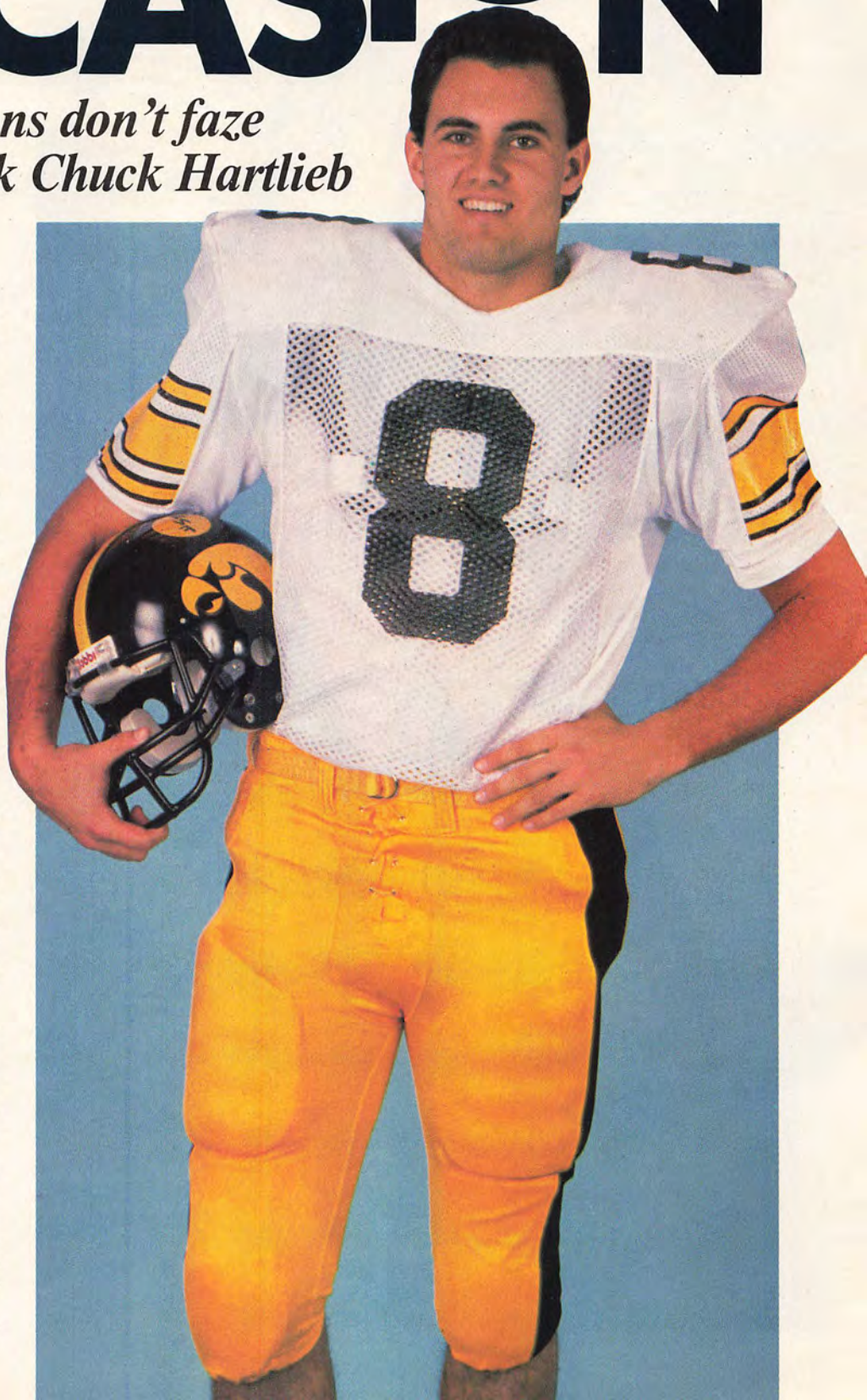
In his first two seasons at Iowa, Hartlieb watched while Long shattered passing records and led the Hawkeyes to high national rankings. Long became a consensus All-America, a Heisman Trophy runner-up, the quarterback of a Rose Bowl team and a first-round draft pick of the Detroit Lions.

Hartlieb, however, wasn't just standing around awe-struck while Long worked his magic. He took notes, milked Long's mind, studied his style. Like Aristotle, Hartlieb was soaking up every bit of knowledge his mentor offered. He knew that at some time, he would need to be prepared for his opportunity to call the shots.

Preparation met opportunity for the 6-foot-3, 205-pound Hartlieb in 1987. After two seasons behind Long (the first as a redshirt) and another behind Mark Vlasic, Hartlieb emerged last season from a tense, controversial quarterback race to lead the Hawkeyes to six consecutive season-ending victories, including a Holiday Bowl triumph over Wyoming, and a 10-3 overall record.

Hartlieb now finds himself in the same position as did Long in 1985. Confident after a strong junior season, Hartlieb is a fifth-year senior with his thoughts focused on directing the Hawkeyes to a Big Ten Conference championship and the Rose Bowl.

Hartlieb's association with Long began when Hartlieb took his recruiting visit to Iowa City, where Long was his escort. Long and Hartlieb were both lightly recruited quarterbacks out of Illinois—Long from Wheaton and Hartlieb from Wood-



Continued



RIISING TO THE OCCASION

stock. When it came time for Hartlieb to choose among Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana and Duke, Long was a major factor in his decision.

"He had a really big effect on me," Hartlieb recalled. "I paralleled what Chuck did to what I was thinking as a senior in high school. I saw that he had made it.

"Personality-wise, Chuck had a laid-back approach, much like the way I am. He got along with his teammates real well, and he was a multidimensional person.

"He knew how much I respected him, too. I would throw out a question and he'd give me a five-minute explanation. I hung on his every word. I actually learned from his mistakes. Last year, I could've put myself in a million situations, critical situations, but I didn't because I went back to things I saw Chuck do."

The similarities between Long and Hartlieb don't end with their first names and Illinois prep backgrounds. Both are righthanded, sidearm throwers who complete a high percentage of passes. Both have strong family backgrounds. And like Long, Hartlieb wins football games.

"The thing about Chuck Hartlieb is that he has a unique ability to rise to the occasion," Iowa Coach Hayden Fry said. "He has an uncanny ability to do that. Chuck Long had it, too. It's an uncanny ability to rise up in a critical situation and produce."

Placed in a critical, pressure situation last fall, Hartlieb produced and won the Iowa job.

A year ago, sophomore Dan McGwire, a heralded 6-foot-8 passer from California and the younger brother of Mark McGwire of the Oakland A's, was listed as the No. 1 quarterback for the start of fall drills. Redshirt sophomore Tom Poholsky, who had led the Hawkeyes to victory in four of the five games he started in 1986, shared second-string status with Hartlieb.

Before the season opener against Tennessee in the Kickoff Classic, however, Fry announced that the three were even. McGwire would start, he said, but each would see action against the Volunteers.

None of the three was exceptional in the 23-22 loss to Tennessee. Poholsky started the second game at Arizona, but Hartlieb entered late in the third period and led Iowa to a 15-14 victory. Hartlieb was given his first start a week later at Iowa State and completed 15 of 18 passes to spark a 48-9 victory.

But Fry still was uncertain about what to do. He decided to play quarterback by committee again in the fourth game against Kansas State. That only compli-

Chuck Hartlieb's only goal is to be the starting quarterback for Iowa in the Rose Bowl.



In 1987, Hartlieb became the first Hawkeye ever to produce five 300-yard passing games in a season.

cated matters as Hartlieb, McGwire and Poholsky combined for six interceptions in a lackluster win.

Fry chose McGwire to start the Big Ten opener in Iowa City against Michigan State. Hartlieb relieved McGwire when the latter was injured with six minutes left in a 19-14 Hawkeye defeat. Hartlieb completed all six of his pass attempts for 71 yards but couldn't get Iowa in the end zone.

Finally, in the sixth game of the season at Wisconsin, Hartlieb won the job. He passed for 223 yards and two touchdowns in a 31-10 victory.

Hartlieb figures he came of age as a collegiate quarterback the next Saturday at Michigan. Although Iowa lost badly, 37-10, Hartlieb connected on 27 of 43 passes for 362 yards and the Hawkeyes' only score.

In Iowa's final eight games (including the Holiday Bowl), Hartlieb led the Hawkeyes to seven victories while passing for 2,542 yards and 17 touchdowns, including a record-breaking, 471-yard, seven-touchdown effort at Northwestern. In four other games he threw for no less than 317 yards. No Hawkeye had ever produced five 300-yard passing games in a season before.

By the end of the regular season, Hartlieb had completed 65.6 percent of his passes for 2,855 yards and 19 TDs while being intercepted only eight times. Those numbers placed him first in the Big Ten and third in Division I-A in passing effi-

ciency. He also led the league in total offense, making him a solid selection as the All-Big Ten quarterback.

In perhaps the ultimate concession, McGwire announced his transfer to San Diego State after the season. Hartlieb, who had thrown only eight passes before last season, had prevailed.

"All three quarterbacks were so close on their execution and their statistics," Fry said. "From that standpoint, it was a flip of the coin. It got down to who we thought would do the best job of winning, and that's a pretty broad subject.

"The decision was extremely tough. We thought Chuck would probably improve more, faster, than the rest. He's a brilliant young man, extremely intelligent, a great leader and motivator. Because of his commanding presence, he will rally his teammates and they will go beyond their capabilities."

Hartlieb has always enjoyed that role. His athletic experience has emphasized leadership—as a catcher in baseball since Little League and as a quarterback in football since the fourth grade. Perhaps that came from being raised in a family loaded with athletic talent.

Chuck, 22, is the oldest of Lou and Dolores Hartlieb's four children, all boys. Andy will be a junior linebacker on the Wisconsin football team this season. Jim, a quarterback, is joining Chuck at Iowa this fall. John will be a junior at Marian Central Catholic High School in Woodstock this year. All four brothers have played on state championship teams at Marian Central.

"I always felt bad for mom at the supper table because the main topic of conversation was always football or other sports," Chuck said. "Sports were never forced on us, but they were always encouraged. Each one of us boys took the same exact route in sports.

"We're a very tight-knit family. I can't remember a game my parents have missed since I started playing sports, and they've supported my brothers the same way. My brothers still are my best friends.

"The concept of family in the traditional sense was stressed early in life, good times or bad. Knowing that, it put life in one certain direction for me. It's a secure feeling. Decisions you make don't have the unbelievable consequences they might otherwise."

Making intelligent decisions quickly is an important job requirement for the Hawkeyes' quarterback. Though Iowa has become a tremendous passing program, producing the nation's top passing efficiency rating over the last five seasons, Fry puts the ball on the ground even more often. The result is a complicated system that offers the quarterback many options.

"Any play we have is an all-purpose play," Hartlieb said. "We can go three or four different ways with any play. One time we can pass out of a pro-style set and the next time run the ball with four wideouts."

The complexities and the quarterback's role in choosing the right option were best illustrated in Iowa's game at Ohio State

last season. With 16 seconds left, the Hawkeyes trailed, 27-22. They had the ball on the Buckeye 28-yard line, fourth down and 23 yards to go, with no timeouts left.

Hartlieb tossed a pass to his right, finding tight end Marv Cook along the sideline at the 9-yard line. Cook eluded tacklers and found the end zone to pull out a dramatic 29-27 victory—Fry's first over Ohio State in Columbus.

"At the line of scrimmage, Ohio State was in a complex defense," Hartlieb said. "I knew right then that the only way to get a touchdown was to go to Marv. He was the third receiver on that play. I knew I could go to (wide receiver) Quinn Early and get 15 yards, or I could go to (wide receiver) Travis Watkins and get 20, but it probably wasn't going to be a touchdown. If there would have been 45 seconds left on the clock, I probably never would have gone to Marv.

"You've got to go to the person who is going to make the play in a certain situation. Vlasic learned the same things from Chuck. It's a natural thing after a while. Coach (Bill) Snyder has as intelligent a mind as you'll find, and he's always talking about the mental side of things."

For Hartlieb, the mental side of things now includes dealing with success. A year ago, he was one of three quarterbacks just trying to win a job. Now he is a returning all-conference performer who will be expected to lead the Hawkeyes to the Big Ten championship and a high national ranking. His name is even being mentioned among the top dozen or so candidates for the Heisman Trophy.

That Heisman talk staggers Hartlieb.

"I still can't handle it the best," he said. "I can't quite grasp the things that are going on around me now. A year ago, my dream was to be the starting quarterback. There'll be a lot of pressure on me next season, but it'll be different than last year."

Hartlieb refuses to get caught up in the Heisman hype. He even indicated that during the season, he will hesitate before responding to questions on that topic.

"I have a difficult time with the whole idea," he said. "I got to know many friends on the team when I wasn't playing, and they're my friends in the same way now. I would do everything in my capabilities to share things with my friends and teammates. It might be hard to believe, but that's the way I feel."

Hartlieb has been focused on only one goal since his arrival at Iowa. That goal was written on the questionnaire that all Hawkeye freshmen are required to complete.

"The last question is, 'What are your primary goals in football at Iowa?'" Hartlieb recalled. "It sounds corny, but I wrote one sentence. I wrote, 'I want to be the starting quarterback for Iowa in the Rose Bowl.'"

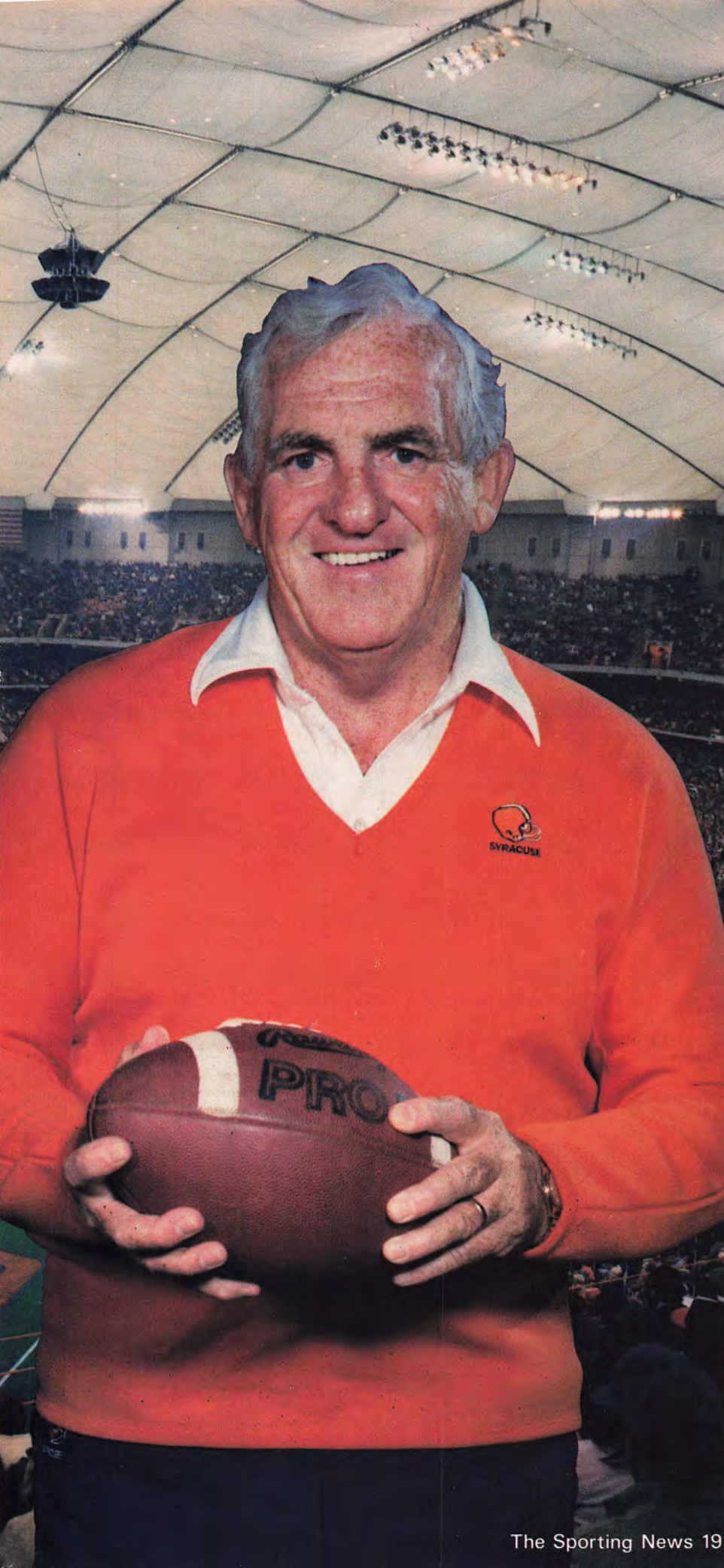
"To play in Pasadena would be the ultimate for me. Not many people reach their ultimate goal."

With a little help from another deep-thinker named Chuck, Hartlieb's dream is in sight. ■

THE SYRACUSE STORY



*Coach Dick MacPherson
and the Orangemen
finally are tasting
the fruits of their labor*



By TOM LEO
Syracuse Herald-Journal

The year was 1980, and Syracuse Athletic Director Jake Crouthamel was in search of a football coach to replace Frank Maloney and return the Orangemen to the glory years that were the 1950s and '60s.

Oh, Maloney had done a respectable job since taking over in 1974 for Floyd (Ben) Schwartzwalder, who had coached the Orangemen to a 153-91-3 record over 25 years and won a national championship in 1959. Maloney posted three winning seasons—all 6-5. And his 1979 squad, led by Joe Morris and Art Monk, even earned Syracuse's first bowl bid, albeit a minor one, in 13 years when it accepted a trip to the Independence Bowl. Syracuse's victory over McNeese State made the Orangemen 7-5 overall, which was considered quite an accomplishment for a team that had played every game on the road while the Carrier Dome was being built. But when the Orangemen went 5-6 the following year, Maloney—never a crowd favorite—resigned.

One of the knocks against the former coach was his uneasy relationship with the city. Maloney almost never accepted speaking engagements and, as a rule, refused to get involved in community projects.

Crouthamel knew that Syracuse needed a man who could sell football as well as coach it. The public preferred someone with name recognition such as former Syracuse All-America running back Floyd Little, who after years of starring in the National Football League for the Denver Broncos might help attract recruits to play in the 50,000-seat Carrier Dome, which had opened in 1980, Maloney's last season.

Little wanted the job but was passed over because, he was told, he had no previous coaching experience. Besides, Crouthamel already had found the man he wanted in Dick MacPherson, a linebackers coach for the Cleveland Browns.

They had first met in 1971, when MacPherson was head coach at Massachusetts, Crouthamel at Dartmouth.

"I was impressed with Mac the first day I met him," Crouthamel recalled. "He was a doer, a motivator, a guy who you knew could get things done. And most of all he was a good football coach. We weren't looking for a quick fix. We needed someone at Syracuse who could start from step one and build a winning, consistent program. Mac was that guy."

Crouthamel has been proved right, although it didn't happen overnight. Syra-

Continued



THE SYRACUSE STORY

cuse was 6-15-1 in MacPherson's first two seasons. But today MacPherson is the man most credited with the resurgence of Orange football.

MacPherson's coaching talent may be topped only by his public relations qualifications. The 57-year-old native of Old Town, Me., is Syracuse's favorite motivational speaker at graduations, retirements, business meetings—you name it. MacPherson has not only made Syracuse his full-time residence, but also serves on the board of several civic organizations, including the Salvation Army, Easter Seals and American and Juvenile Diabetes. A far cry from the days of Frank Maloney.

Funny, though, it was only a year ago that some Syracuse fans were screaming for MacPherson's head, good guy or not. After the Orange ended a string of three straight winning seasons with a 5-6 mark in 1986, the SacMacPac was thirsting for new blood. But a storybook 1987 campaign in which Syracuse leaped into the national spotlight by completing an 11-0 regular season before tying Auburn in the Sugar Bowl made MacPherson and the Orangemen last year's best Cinderella story.

Some highlights?

- How about a 48-21 thrashing of defending national champion Penn State, a team Syracuse hadn't beaten since 1970? The Orangemen led the Nittany Lions, 41-0, before MacPherson mercifully pulled his starters midway through the third quarter.

- Two weeks later came a 24-10 victory at Pittsburgh, a team many thought would deal Syracuse its first loss after seven wins because of a knee injury to defensive star Ted Gregory. The Orangemen opened a 24-3 lead at halftime and coasted to an easy victory.

- After defeating Navy, 34-10, to raise its record to 9-0, Syracuse whipped Boston College, 45-17. All the Orangemen did in this one was score 45 unanswered points

on seven consecutive possessions after the Eagles had opened a 17-0 lead.

- Syracuse saved the best for last, though, preserving its unbeaten regular season in the final week with a come-from-behind, 32-31 victory over West Virginia. Led by quarterback Don McPherson, winner of the Maxwell Award as the national Player of the Year and runner-up to Tim Brown for the Heisman Trophy, Syracuse scored 22 fourth-quarter points, including a touchdown and a two-point conversion with 10 seconds left in the game.

- And in the Sugar Bowl, Syracuse led, 16-13, with one second on the clock when Auburn elected to attempt a 30-yard field goal rather than go for a game-winning touchdown. The field goal was good, ending the game in a tie and silencing any claims the Orange might have had to the mythical national championship.

But when all the bowl results were in, Syracuse was ranked fourth in the nation and MacPherson was suddenly a genius, sweeping all the major coaching awards. He was named Coach of the Year by The Sporting News and just about every other publication and group that gives out such honors.

Yes, last season put both Syracuse and MacPherson back on the football map. The school needed it to rekindle dwindling fan interest. Three sellouts—the first time that has happened since 1980—helped Syracuse set a new attendance mark by averaging 44,490 fans per game. Football tickets now should be just as coveted as basketball tickets at the Carrier Dome this year. And the coach finally has some long overdue recognition.

But there's a new challenge awaiting MacPherson and the Orangemen in 1988. Both must prove that 1987 wasn't a one-shot deal.

For years, almost two decades in fact, the long-suffering football fans of Syracuse got through each season by remembering the past. It took some imagination, but watching each year's crop of Orangemen blunder their way to one losing season after another became a little more bearable that way. If one sat high enough in old Archbold Stadium or even in the Carrier Dome, it wasn't so difficult to envision such former greats as Jim Brown, Ernie Davis, Floyd Little and Larry Csonka down on the field.

But then the game would start. And it became strikingly clear that the real-life Orangemen, who compiled a 91-115 record from 1968-86, weren't exactly the stuff that dreams were made of.

But the 1987 Orangemen were a dream come true. And now that they are winning again, their fans' biggest fear is that they may not be able to sustain it.

"They've got a right to be fearful," MacPherson said. "We still have a lot to prove. One season doesn't mean anything. We've got to do it again and again and again, like the Penn States and Nebraskas. That's what we're striving for."

To let his players know there still is work to be done, MacPherson has borrowed an advertising theme from Merrill

The replacement for quarterback Don McPherson could be the key to Syracuse's upcoming season.

Lynch and, of all people, Penn State Coach Joe Paterno, a Merrill Lynch spokesman.

"One big hit isn't the answer. One big season. It's things over the long haul," Paterno says in the advertisement, which hangs on the bulletin board in the Syracuse locker room.

MacPherson likes Paterno's message so much that he wrote the coach a letter thanking him.

"I told him that's the theme we used when we got together for spring practice," he said, "because that is us."

Motivational techniques aside, it's unlikely that Syracuse will slip back to mediocrity. Two top recruiting classes, the first in 1986 following a Cherry Bowl season and the second this winter, should see to that. The Carrier Dome, as well as a \$4 million renovation project involving Manley Field House, which houses the football offices and training facilities, has made recruiting somewhat easier.

"Now the program can sell itself," MacPherson said. "We have facilities that are as good or better than any school in the country. All we lacked before was the winning. We got that done in 1987, and hopefully it will continue."

The '86 recruits already have paid dividends for the Orangemen, with running back Michael Owens (a Proposition 48 casualty as a freshman) getting a lot of playing time as a sophomore. Blake Bednarz, John Flannery and Turnell Sims, all from the class of '86, are returning starters on an impressive offensive line. Wide

receiver Rob Moore averaged 29 yards on nine catches last year. And classmate Bill Scharr is expected to replace McPherson at quarterback and could be the key to Syracuse's upcoming season.

The '88 recruits include three Parade All-Americans—quarterback Wendal Lowrey and defensive linemen George Rooks and Garland Hawkins—and several other notable players, many of whom chose the Orange over perennial powers Penn State, Miami (Fla.) and Nebraska. MacPherson called the '88 class, which probably will be redshirted this fall, the best Syracuse has ever had.

The Orangemen also have a talented group back from last year's junior-dominated team, which should mean another postseason appearance. If Scharr, the New York state record holder with 73 career touchdown passes in high school, has a good season, there's no telling what the Orangemen can accomplish this year. Senior Todd Philcox will likely get a chance if Scharr falters.

"People can't expect Billy Scharr to do the things Donnie did for us last season," MacPherson said. "They have to think back to when Donnie was a sophomore. But by the same token, the chorus line is a lot different now than it was for Donnie in '85. With the surrounding cast, the quarterback, be it Billy or Todd, doesn't have to be the star of the show, just the orchestra leader."

MacPherson has plenty of candidates for stars. Robert Drummond, Daryl Johnston and Owens last season became the first trio of Syracuse running backs to each gain more than 500 yards since Davis, Gerhard Schwedes and Art Baker did it in 1959. Speedsters Deval Glover and Moore return at wide receiver. And 6-foot-3, 258-pound tight end Pat Davis should fill in capably for the departed Pat Kelly.

Defensively, Syracuse returns intact its entire secondary, led by safety Markus Paul, a finalist in the balloting for the Thorpe Award as the nation's best defensive back. Outside linebacker Terry Wooden, an All-East performer last season, inside linebacker David Bavaro and tackle Rob Burnett, who will replace Gregory, are big-play performers.

The schedule is tougher than it was a year ago, with road games at Ohio State, Penn State, Boston College and West Virginia. The home schedule is highlighted by games against Maryland and Pittsburgh.

But even if the Orangemen don't fare as well as expected, Crouthamel believes Syracuse already has shed its image as a losing program—and not just because of last season.

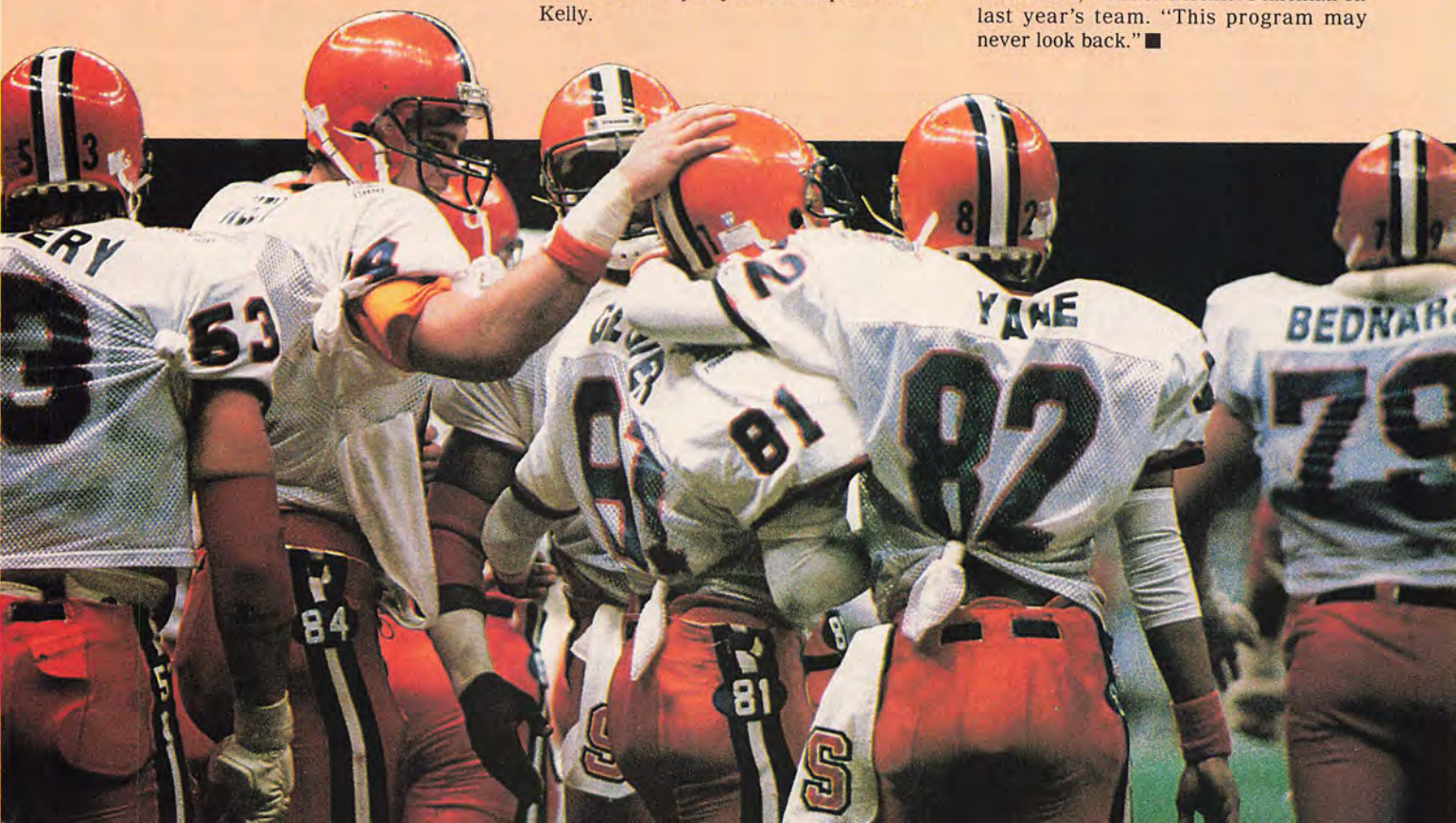
"Those who called us losers haven't seen what I've seen," he said. "Since 1983 I've seen 6-5, 6-5, 7-4, 5-6 after an atrocious 0-4 start and 11-0. We didn't turn the corner with 11-0. We started turning the corner four years ago."

In fact, going back five seasons, the Orangemen have compiled a 35-21-1 record (including the Sugar Bowl tie and a 1985 Cherry Bowl defeat). Syracuse will go into 1988 with a 14-1-1 record in its last 16 games and a 13-game unbeaten streak, the longest current streak in Division I-A.

More winning seasons, bowl trips and national rankings seem likely. Members of the coaching staff say they will be disappointed if Syracuse doesn't go to a bowl game this season, and they don't see why the Orangemen shouldn't be thinking about New Year's Day and national championships again. That's the kind of talk you hear around programs that are building a winning tradition.

"We put down the foundation," said Paul Frase, a senior defensive lineman on last year's team. "This program may never look back." ■

More winning seasons, bowl trips and national rankings seem likely for the Orangemen.



HEISMAN HYPE



Has the whole thing gotten out of hand?

By TOM WHEATLEY
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The only thing simple about the whole process, other than many of the minds that determine its result, is the Heisman Trophy ballot itself.

"I hereby designate (NAME) (COLLEGE) as My First Choice to receive the HEISMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY, awarded to the Outstanding College Football Player of the United States for 19—. To the best of my knowledge, he conforms to the rules governing the vote."

This is followed by blanks for the voter's second and third choices. The rules governing the vote are as follows:

"... (T)he recipient of the award must be an undergraduate of a recognized college or university including the United States Service Academies. Football players on service and professional teams and those who had already completed MORE than four years of college varsity football prior to (this) season are not eligible."

That's it.

That's all that guides the 1,050 sportswriters and broadcasters who decide the recipient of this coveted hunk of bad sculpture, which has been presented by the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City since 1935.

The first winner was Jay Berwanger of the University of Chicago, which now fields a Division III football team.

The latest winner was Tim Brown of Notre Dame, which leads all schools with seven Heisman winners.

In between, all manner of weird things have happened.

I never paid much attention to the Heisman process until 1970, when Joe Theismann of Notre Dame changed the pronunciation of his name from Thees-mann

to Joe "Thise-mann, as in Heisman." Despite that name game, or maybe because of it, Joe ran second in 1970 to Stanford's Jim Plunkett, as in junket.

My interest peaked in 1972, my senior year at Bucknell. We Bison lovers were unaware that a Heisman candidate was plodding in our midst. That would be the immortal Mitch Farbstein, a big workhorse of a fullback. Mitch got a single Heisman vote from a scribe who went on to write an article for a major magazine explaining his noble choice.

My interest lapsed until 1983, when I did time as a college football beat writer for the first and only hitch of my career. I was covering Pittsburgh when a midseason call came from a Dallas newspaper conducting a mock Heisman poll.

I told the man I was like a football coach, who knows everything about his own team, a lot about his previous opponents, not enough about the upcoming opponent and nothing at all about anybody or anything else in the universe.

The pollster pressed me for a choice. I said the most dominating player I'd seen, or that I'd ever seen, was Pitt offensive tackle Bill Fralic. This was Fralic's junior season, before he suffered from a bout of senioritis.

Fralic was just crushing anybody in his path that season. As Pitt center Jim Sweeney, now with the New York Jets, put it: "Fralic doesn't just block people. He drives them all the way to China."

But I felt sheepish about making a homer pick from the team I cover.

"Don't worry about it," the pollster said. "I just talked to a guy from Nebraska, and his three picks were all Cornhuskers."

I didn't have a real Heisman ballot that year, which was good. I had no idea who were the best players outside my own little region. But neither did the homer from Nebraska. What if he had had a ballot?

It wouldn't have mattered. For one thing, Mike Rozier won the Heisman that year, meaning plenty of people around the country must have shared at least one of his opinions. And besides, he would

have been just one of 1,050 voters, most of whom had little firsthand knowledge about the country's best players—even when the best defensive players are eliminated from the voting, which is what usually happens.

That's where the hype comes in. And continues to come in, although there are faint signs that the worst may be over.

Heisman hype is responsible for the 1987 phenomenon of Gordie Lockbaum, who was not even voted Holy Cross' most valuable player by his teammates. But because of a Yuppie surge of misplaced nostalgia, Lockbaum—who played both offense and defense for a Division I-AA team—ran a strong third behind Brown and runner-up Don McPherson of Syracuse. Lockbaum, the most recent last of the two-way players, caught the fancy of his electorate despite a shaky platform.

Actually, the Heisman voting nowadays has taken on all the understatement of a presidential primary. The same ingredients can make or break a candidate for either post.

You must jump in early with saturation promotion. That costs money, but it's important because a fast start is essential. And as with everything else in 1980s America, strong TV credits are a must.

It has gotten to the point where no Heisman voter, and virtually no college football writer, can safely empty his mailbox without confronting the dreaded Heisman hype. Newsletters have given way to brochures, posters and—the final straw—videotapes.

By the spring, schools start pumping their Heisman Hopefuls. By the summer, Heisman Hopefuls are the coverboys of the preseason football magazines, like this one. By the fall, many newspapers carry a Heisman Watch, updated with the latest statistics.

The man credited, if that's the word, with launching the modern era of Heisman hype is mild-mannered Roger Valdiserri of Notre Dame. An associate athletic director, Valdiserri's domain includes the sports information depart-

The words "Heisman Memorial Trophy" and the likeness of the trophy are both registered service marks of the Downtown Athletic Club of New York City.

ment, which he joined in 1966.

It was Valdiserri who informed young quarterback Theismann that his family had been mispronouncing his surname to those many years before coming to South Bend.

"Joe Theismann and I had lunch two or three weeks ago," Valdiserri said in an interview last spring. "I said, 'You know, I still get questions about that, when I changed your name.' And he said, 'You know, the funny thing is, I still go by Joe Thise-mann.'"

As in Heisman.

"We laughed about it," said Valdiserri, laughing about it again.

He was not the campaign manager for Notre Dame's first six Heisman winners—Angelo Bertelli in '43, John Lujack ('47), Leon Hart ('49), John Lattner ('53), Paul Hornung ('56) and John Huarte ('64). But in Valdiserri's first 14 years on the job, Irish players finished in the top 12 of the Heisman voting 12 times, including Theismann's runner-up finish in '70 and third-place finishes by Nick Eddy ('66), Terry Hanratty ('68) and Ken MacAfee ('77).

Valdiserri finally brought home a winner last year with Brown. We can only hope that college publicists take note of the winning tactics, which were not foot-in-the-door sales pitches.

"We went through a period of overpublicizing," Valdiserri said. "It may come back to normal now. I thought last year, we brought some sanity back to it. We didn't send out any special brochures. We didn't badger people with publicity. I think that largely, Timmy Brown impressed the voters with his performance on the field.

"You have to try to determine the electorate and the backlash you might have. If we had been brazen and bold, people might say: 'They have six Heisman winners. Now they want seven.'"

Valdiserri, sounding like Marshall McLuhan, said the clatter and clutter of Heisman hype is self-defeating for other reasons.

"We're in the middle of an information overload," he said. "We've become a nation of scanners. TV has done that. We have a tribal culture now, a global village. There's just so much information, just in the mail I get at home. I don't have time to read it all. And I scan it."

Some Heisman mailings float above the deluge.

In 1980, Pitt promoted Hugh Green with a poster, then a fairly new idea. Green, a defensive end—no one-way defensive player has ever won the Heisman—ran second to running back George Rogers of South Carolina. A few years later, Clemson produced a life-size poster of defensive lineman William (The Refrigerator) Perry, suitable for attaching to the family icebox.

"A lot of them have come up with gimmicks," Valdiserri said. "I think it got to the point where SIDs (sports information directors) almost felt a mandate from coaches or athletic directors."

Notre Dame can afford to downplay the hype more than other schools because the

Irish are on TV almost as much as Brent Musburger. But it appears as if other schools that aren't on TV every week are starting to soften the hard sell.

Iowa, for instance. Sports information director George Wine almost scored a coup in 1985, when quarterback Chuck Long nearly stole the award from heavy favorite Bo Jackson of Auburn. Long did his own campaigning with a series of big games on national TV.

"We had an unusual situation in 1985," Wine said. "We had three really quality players—Long, Larry Station and Ronnie Harmon. So we just conducted a weekly update with what we thought were tasteful flyers. We threw in a few quotes and updated them as we went along. And all three had great years."

At Iowa, the theory is that promoting one player above the team can be bad for both morale and the designated hero.

"The kid has to be able to handle that kind of spotlight," Wine said. "One year when Bob Commings was coach (the mid-1970s), we had a kid on a postseason poster, the cover of the press guide and on the schedule cards. He was a basket case. He was having anxiety attacks.

"We all thought the kid was screwy. We just didn't know he was that screwy. He was a running back in his senior year, and he ended up handling the ball about 11 times."

Wine is among those who believe the whole Heisman thing "has gotten out of hand." Iowa campaign literature does not mention the award, "although it's probably implied," he said.

Wine is trying a new tactic this year. He is placing ads in various publications touting Iowa's three returning standouts—quarterback Chuck Hartlieb, tight end Marv Cook and noseguard Dave Haight. The ad reads, "Keep Your Eye on These Iowa Hawkeyes."

Said Wine: "You have to make the media aware of your kid, or kids, who are a step above the pack. But I really strongly believe that the kid wins the Heisman. A lot of people think the SID wins the Heisman."

Unless it has a built-in gimmick, like two-way throwback Lockbaum of Holy Cross, a small school gets lost in the Heisman shuffle if it doesn't hype its hero.

But both Valdiserri and Wine think that, thanks to TV sports shows on cable stations, today's voter is more informed than ever. Valdiserri, for one, does not begrudge Lockbaum taking Heisman votes away from Brown.

Lockbaum "was very unique," he said. "He wasn't big, and he was from a small school. I admire him. If I were a writer, I'd probably have voted for him. (Pause.) Second."

★ ★ ★

On the following pages are position-by-position rankings of the nation's best Division I-A football players, many of whom will be touted for the Heisman, the Outland Trophy, the Lombardi Award, the Davey O'Brien Award, the Butkus Award, the Jim Thorpe Award and, of course, All-America acclaim. ■

AWARD CANDIDATES

HEISMAN TROPHY (Top Player)

1. Bobby Humphrey, RB, Alabama.
2. Troy Aikman, QB, UCLA.
3. Darrell Thompson, RB, Minnesota.
4. Emmitt Smith, RB, Florida.
5. Rodney Peete, QB, Southern Cal.
6. Sammie Smith, RB, Florida State.
7. Eric Metcalf, RB, Texas.
8. Steve Taylor, QB, Nebraska.
9. Chuck Hartlieb, QB, Iowa.
10. Terrence Jones, QB, Tulane.

OUTLAND TROPHY (Top Interior Lineman)

1. Mark Messner, DT, Michigan.
2. Tracy Rucker, DT, Auburn.
3. Odell Haggins, NT, Florida State.
4. Steve Wisniewski, OG, Penn State.
5. Mark Stepnoski, OG, Pittsburgh.
6. Dave Haight, NT, Iowa.
7. Pat Tomberlin, OT, Florida State.
8. Mike Zandofsky, OT, Washington.
9. Joe Tofflemire, C, Arizona.
10. Dennis Brown, DT, Washington.

LOMBARDI AWARD (Top Lineman/Linebacker)

1. Broderick Thomas, LB, Nebraska.
2. Mark Messner, DT, Michigan.
3. Tracy Rucker, DT, Auburn.
4. John Roper, LB, Texas A&M.
5. Odell Haggins, NT, Florida State.
6. Derrick Thomas, LB, Alabama.
7. Bill Hawkins, DE, Miami (Fla.).
8. Steve Wisniewski, OG, Penn State.
9. Mark Stepnoski, OG, Pittsburgh.
10. Dave Haight, NT, Iowa.

DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD (Top Quarterback)

1. Troy Aikman, UCLA.
2. Terrence Jones, Tulane.
3. Tom Hodson, Louisiana State.
4. Rodney Peete, Southern California.
5. Steve Taylor, Nebraska.
6. Major Harris, West Virginia.
7. Eric Jones, Vanderbilt.
8. Todd Ellis, South Carolina.
9. Chuck Hartlieb, Iowa.
10. Troy Taylor, California.

BUTKUS AWARD (Top Linebacker)

1. Broderick Thomas, Nebraska.
2. John Roper, Texas A&M.
3. Jon Leverenz, Minnesota.
4. Derrick Thomas, Alabama.
5. Carnell Lake, UCLA.
6. Rod Carter, Miami (Fla.).
7. Ned Bolcar, Notre Dame.
8. Mike McCray, Ohio State.
9. Percy Snow, Michigan State.
10. Terry Wooden, Syracuse.

THORPE AWARD (Top Defensive Back)

1. Deion Sanders, CB, Florida State.
2. Louis Oliver, S, Florida.
3. Donnell Woolford, CB, Clemson.
4. Markus Paul, S, Syracuse.
5. Falanda Newton, S, TCU.
6. Robert Blackmon, S, Baylor.
7. Stevon Moore, CB, Mississippi.
8. Darryl Henley, CB, UCLA.
9. Eddie Johnson, CB, Penn State.
10. Mark Carrier, S, Southern Cal.



Beware, Big 10: Minnesota star is even faster

By CHARLEY HALLMAN
St. Paul Pioneer Press

As if Minnesota's Big Ten Conference foes didn't have enough to worry about already, Darrell Thompson is getting faster.

In Golden Gopher workouts last spring, the muscular 6-foot-2, 220-pound tailback ran the 40-yard dash in the 4.4-second range. Repeatedly. That was quite an improvement on his 4.65-second time as a freshman.

"I predict he'll become a franchise back, like a Walker, a Dickerson or a Dorsett," said one pro scout in attendance.

But that won't happen for at least two years. Thompson is just a junior.

"No one in Big Ten history has ever done what Darrell has been able to accomplish," Minnesota Coach John Gutekunst said. "Thompson's run for more than 1,000 yards in each of his first two seasons with us. You could understand it happening one year. But last year people had a chance to prepare for him, and Darrell was just as impressive."

As a freshman, Thompson rushed for 1,240 yards and eight touchdowns. Then he rushed for 1,229 yards and 13 TDs last year. He has accumulated another 233 yards and three TDs on 27 pass receptions in two years.

"He's a helluva back," Michigan Coach Bo Schembechler said after watching Thompson cruise for 202 yards against the Wolverines last fall. "Once he gets the ball, you have to get on him right away. If he breaks the corner, you'd better have someone really fast to chase him down."

With multithreat quarterback Rickey Foggie gone, Minnesota is changing its offense this year to get the ball in Thompson's hands as much as possible.

"I guess we're going to be running more from the I or T," Thompson said. "I'll get a lot more straight handoffs."

With Florida transfer Octavius Gould joining Thompson and a solid stable of fullbacks, the Gophers may keep the ball on the ground all year.

"Our first priority is to get it to Darrell as much as possible," Gutekunst said. "We're going away from the option for that reason. Our objective is to get Darrell to the holes as quickly as possible."

Thompson has the talent to win the Heisman Trophy, but he denies even thinking about it.

"Thinking about it won't keep you from getting hurt," he said. "I've got enough trouble thinking about what I have to do in the classroom and the football field." ■



Minnesota is changing its offense this year to get the ball in Darrell Thompson's hands as much as possible.

RUNNING BACKS



E. Smith



S. Smith



A. Thompson



Greene

HALFBACKS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Bobby Humphrey	6-01	187	Senior	Alabama
2.	Darrell Thompson	6-02	220	Junior	Minnesota
3.	Emmitt Smith	5-11	205	Soph.	Florida
4.	Sammie Smith	6-02	221	Junior	Florida State
5.	Anthony Thompson	6-00	206	Junior	Indiana
6.	Reggie Cobb	6-00	210	Soph.	Tennessee
7.	John Harvey	6-00	190	Senior	Texas-El Paso
8.	James Gray	5-10	210	Junior	Texas Tech
9.	A.B. Brown	5-10	211	Senior	West Virginia
10.	Harold Green	6-02	212	Junior	South Carolina
11.	Rodney Hampton	6-00	195	Soph.	Georgia
12.	Darren Lewis	5-11	210	Soph.	Texas A&M
13.	Dexter Carter	5-09	159	Junior	Florida State
14.	Anthony Stafford	5-07	175	Senior	Oklahoma
15.	Jim Bell	6-01	202	Senior	Boston College

NOTE: David Fair (Mississippi State), Jerry Mays (Georgia Tech), Blair Thomas (Penn State), Steven Webster (Southern California) and Harvey Williams (Louisiana State) were not included because of injuries. Marc Hicks (Ohio State) and Tim Worley (Georgia) were not included because of academic problems.

FULLBACKS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Daryl Johnston	6-01	238	Senior	Syracuse
2.	Ervin Farris	5-11	220	Senior	Texas Tech
3.	Tracy Johnson	6-00	230	Senior	Clemson
4.	John Greene	5-11	187	Senior	Penn State
5.	Tommie Stowers	6-03	216	Junior	Missouri
6.	Joe Henderson	6-00	202	Senior	Iowa State
7.	Leroy Holt	6-00	215	Junior	Southern Cal
8.	Anthony Johnson	6-00	219	Junior	Notre Dame
9.	Braxton Banks	6-02	211	Junior	Notre Dame
10.	Aaron Jenkins	6-00	233	Senior	Washington
11.	Cleveland Gary	6-02	226	Senior	Miami (Fla.)
12.	Darron Norris	5-09	195	Senior	Texas
13.	Dayne Williams	6-01	230	Senior	Florida State
14.	Tim James	5-11	235	Senior	East Carolina
15.	Latin Berry	5-10	189	Junior	Oregon

NOTE: Keith Henderson (Georgia) was not included because of academic problems.

Oregon's Bill Musgrave: Clark Kent at quarterback

By NICK BERTRAM
Portland Oregonian

The shoes Chris Miller left behind after finishing his record-shattering career in 1986 couldn't have been filled if Bigfoot had strolled out of a nearby forest and laced them on. But Bill Musgrave came close.

Nobody really expected Musgrave to do it. Pete Nelson looked like Miller's most likely successor, simply because he had game experience and no one else did. Musgrave was but a redshirt freshman in 1987, and though he seemed smart enough, his arm strength left a lot to be desired. And he was so quiet, he almost went unnoticed.

The Ducks had become accustomed to Miller, a vocal leader with a great arm. Musgrave was about as far from Miller in those days as the Ducks have been from the Rose Bowl in the last three decades.

So who was that quarterback who, five weeks into the 1987 season, already had been named the Pacific-10 Conference's offensive player of the week twice and had directed Oregon to a 4-1 record, including back-to-back victories over Washington and Southern California, enabling the Ducks to crack the national rankings for the first time since the days of Dan Fouts?

Bill Musgrave, Oregon's Clark Kent at quarterback. The 6-foot-3, 192-pounder missed most of three games with a severe thigh bruise but still picked apart secondaries for 1,836 yards and 13 touchdowns and ranked high among the Division I-A leaders in passing efficiency.

"People thought we'd fall off the face of the earth at quarterback," Ducks Coach Rich Brooks said. Instead, the Ducks replaced one star with another.

Musgrave, who was recruited by Yale and Stanford for his academic prowess, doesn't look the part.

"He's got that look about him during games that he doesn't have off the field," offensive coordinator Bob Toledo said. "When he's got his glasses on and the books under his arm, he gives you a book-worm look. But when he puts his helmet on, he's a different kind of guy."

His teammates noticed quickly. Even though he spoke so quietly in the huddle that his coaches had to tell him to raise his voice, Musgrave showed a presence.

"I kept looking at him in the huddle," former split end J.J. Birden said, "and thinking: 'No, he's not a freshman. It seems like he's been here for a couple of years.'"

Said Toledo: "Once he's on the field, he's got the mentality of a linebacker."

Silent Bill is at a loss for words to explain that transformation.

"I really don't realize if I'm holding back off the field," he said, "but it's so fun out there." ■



Oregon's Bill Musgrave has the mentality of a linebacker when he's on the field.

QUARTERBACKS



Hodson



Ellis



Dowis

PASSING

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Troy Aikman	6-03	217	Senior	UCLA
2.	Tom Hodson	6-03	195	Junior	Louisiana State
3.	Rodney Peete	6-02	195	Senior	Southern Cal
4.	Todd Ellis	6-03	203	Junior	South Carolina
5.	Chuck Hartlieb	6-03	205	Senior	Iowa
6.	Troy Taylor	6-04	185	Junior	California
7.	Dave Schnell	6-02	213	Junior	Indiana
8.	Jeff Francis	6-04	210	Senior	Tennessee
9.	Steve Walsh	6-03	195	Junior	Miami (Fla.)
10.	Mike Gundy	5-11	180	Junior	Oklahoma State
11.	Mike Elkins	6-03	215	Senior	Wake Forest
12.	Bill Musgrave	6-03	192	Soph.	Oregon
13.	Brent Snyder	6-04	218	Senior	Utah State
14.	Mike Power	6-02	182	Junior	Boston College
15.	Scooter Molander	6-01	190	Senior	Colorado State

ALL-PURPOSE

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Terrence Jones	6-01	207	Senior	Tulane
2.	Steve Taylor	6-00	195	Senior	Nebraska
3.	Eric Jones	6-02	197	Senior	Vanderbilt
4.	Major Harris	6-01	215	Soph.	West Virginia
5.	Charles Thompson	5-10	161	Soph.	Oklahoma
6.	Marshall Taylor	5-09	182	Senior	Northern Illinois
7.	Patrick Young	5-08	171	Soph.	Kent State
8.	Shawn Moore	6-02	210	Soph.	Virginia
9.	Tony Rice	6-02	198	Junior	Notre Dame
10.	Dee Dowis	5-10	160	Junior	Air Force
11.	Sal Aunese	5-10	195	Junior	Colorado
12.	John Stollenwerck	6-00	200	Junior	Missouri
13.	Travis Hunter	5-11	194	Junior	East Carolina
14.	Brian Mitchell	5-10	195	Junior	SW Louisiana
15.	Ronald Veal	5-10	197	Soph.	Arizona

NOTE: Darnell Dickerson (Pittsburgh) and Jamelle Holieway (Oklahoma) were not included because of injuries.



ALL-AMERICA PREVIEW

Ford's desire for his diploma helps Virginia

By DOUG DOUGHTY
Roanoke Times & World-News

When John Ford caught the winning touchdown pass in Virginia's 22-16 victory over Brigham Young in the All-American Bowl, many questioned whether he would ever wear a Cavaliers uniform again.

Ford had sparked most of the speculation on the subject when he announced that he would pass up his final year of eligibility if he gained his diploma—as scheduled—in May. A fourth-year junior, he was eligible to turn pro because he had been redshirted in 1985.

Ford's academic situation didn't work out as planned, however, and he decided to postpone his pro career one more year.

"It was a matter of a couple of grades," said Ford, an All-Atlantic Coast Conference wide receiver in 1987, when he had 48 catches for 855 yards and six touchdowns. "I didn't fail any courses. I just wasn't up to par in my major (sociology). I wanted to leave college with my degree; I didn't want to come back and get it."

Ford could be full speed this year for the first time since his freshman season, when he averaged 28.7 yards per catch and was named ACC Rookie of the Year. A knee injury sidelined Ford in 1985, and Ford still was feeling the psychological effects of that injury in 1986, when he had 32 catches but dropped several balls.

"That's why I will always cherish the (1987) season," Ford said. "I was really into the games. It was my best year."

That was despite a hamstring injury that caused him to miss one game and nagged him from the third game on. He joined the track team for the indoor season but lasted only one meet, and he was excused from spring football drills to rest the hamstring.

"I didn't need the break," Ford said. "It just makes sense to get the hamstring strong again. I'll be out there catching balls; I just won't be running any routes."

Since running 40 yards in 4.4 seconds as a freshman, Ford has kept his times a closely guarded secret. He has good size at 6-foot-3 and 207 pounds and has hoisted more than 400 pounds in the bench press.

Ford already has broken most of Virginia's receiving records and is on the verge of ACC marks for receiving yardage and touchdown receptions in a career. He has 99 catches for 1,955 yards and 18 touchdowns.

"I was aware I was somewhere close to the records," he said. "I just try to keep my mind clear of those sort of things." ■



John Ford already has broken most of Virginia's receiving records and is on the verge of several ACC marks.

WIDE RECEIVERS



Tillman



Affholter

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Hart Lee Dykes.....	6-04	220	Senior	Oklahoma State
2.	Lawyer Tillman.....	6-04	224	Senior	Auburn
3.	John Ford.....	6-03	207	Senior	Virginia
4.	Eddy Anderson.....	5-09	160	Senior	Texas Tech
5.	Wayne Walker.....	5-09	160	Senior	Texas Tech
6.	Clarkston Hines.....	6-01	170	Junior	Duke
7.	Naz Worthen.....	5-09	168	Senior	No. Carolina St.
8.	Tony Jones.....	5-07	139	Junior	Texas
9.	Keith Jennings.....	6-04	235	Senior	Clemson
10.	Erik Affholter.....	6-01	190	Senior	Southern Cal
11.	John Kolesar.....	6-00	187	Senior	Michigan
12.	Robb Thomas.....	5-11	173	Senior	Oregon State
13.	Pierre Goode.....	5-11	175	Junior	Alabama
14.	Greg McMurtry.....	6-03	197	Junior	Michigan
15.	Gary Cooper.....	6-03	190	Junior	Clemson
16.	Andre Rison.....	5-11	195	Senior	Michigan State
17.	Brian Slater.....	6-04	195	Senior	Washington
18.	Tom Waddle.....	6-00	178	Senior	Boston College
19.	Ronald Lewis.....	6-00	170	Junior	Florida State
20.	Greg Lester.....	5-10	167	Soph.	Georgia Tech

Bruton finds Sandman act unnecessary at Missouri

By JIM THOMAS
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Tim Bruton was just a pup, fresh out of middle school, when he discovered the man-myth called the Sandman.

"When I first got to Madison," Bruton recalled, "all you could hear was, 'Broderick Thomas, Broderick Thomas—he's the Sandman, he's the Sandman.'"

At the time, Bruton and Thomas were football teammates at James Madison High School in Houston. Bruton, a tight end who was a year behind Thomas in school, was curious.

"One day I asked him, 'Why do they call you the Sandman?'" Bruton said. "He said, 'Because when I hit you, I'll put you to sleep.'"

Bruton was perplexed. "It was like, 'What the hell is this guy talking about?'"

In one-on-one drills, Bruton found out.

"The first time he really got me," Bruton said. "He drove me into the ground. Then when I was getting up off the ground, he called me all kinds of names. So I didn't like that. Once he called me all those names, I just came off the ball a little harder and I got him. Ever since then, he's been giving me respect."

Despite that experience, Bruton decided he wanted to be just like the Sandman.

"I thought that was the way to go," Bruton said. "Be loud and push people around. Exchange words and get a little cheap shot in once in a while."

At Madison, Bruton caught 43 passes for 791 yards and nine touchdowns over two seasons. He made Max Emfinger's Fabulous 47 list in Texas and decided to attend Missouri, where he figured he could play right away. Thomas, of course, had gone to Nebraska, where he plays—and talks—a mean defensive end.

At Missouri, Bruton's version of the Sandman routine didn't go over big.

"All it did was cause confusion," Bruton said. "I had a lot of fights with players on my team (in 1986, his first year). I finally realized that's not the way to go."

He decided to be himself—not exactly modest, but less ornery—and quickly became a starter as a redshirt freshman last season. The '87 Tigers had no experienced tight ends on hand, so Bruton earned a starting berth almost by default.

Bruton did as much as could be expected of a tight end in Missouri's run-oriented flexbone. He spent most of his time blocking but managed to finish second on the team in receiving with 13 catches for 174 yards and three touchdowns.

"He's a big-timer," Coach Woody Widenhofer said. "He's got the physical abilities. He can be as good as he wants to be."

Bruton, a 6-foot-4, 237-pound sophomore with 4.6-second speed in the 40-yard dash, worked hard on strength over the winter, improving his bench press 100 pounds.



Missouri's Tim Bruton is ready to supplant Oklahoma's Keith Jackson as the Big Eight's premier tight end.

Though he was slowed by a broken hand in the spring, Widenhofer wants to get the ball in Bruton's hands more often, so the Tigers probably will pass more this fall.

"He's the kind of guy that we've got to get the ball to 25 or 30 times," Widenhofer said. To do that, Widenhofer is contemplating using Bruton as a wide receiver in certain situations.

That's fine with Bruton, who is ready to supplant Oklahoma's Keith Jackson as the Big Eight Conference's premier tight end.

"Once he leaves, this is going to be my position in the Big Eight," Bruton said last fall. "I'm not boasting or bragging, but that's the way I feel about it."

The Sandman couldn't have said it better. ■

TIGHT ENDS



Ross



Cook

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Tim Bruton	6-04	237	Soph.	Missouri
2.	Charles Arbuckle	6-02	233	Junior	UCLA
3.	Howard Cross	6-06	232	Senior	Alabama
4.	Walter Reeves	6-04	247	Senior	Auburn
5.	Paul Green	6-03	230	Senior	Southern Cal
6.	Phil Ross	6-04	220	Junior	Oregon State
7.	Tim Jordan	6-03	231	Senior	Indiana
8.	Marv Cook	6-04	243	Senior	Iowa
9.	Darren Handley	6-02	235	Senior	Brigham Young
10.	Troy Sadowski	6-05	243	Senior	Georgia
11.	Todd Millikan	6-03	245	Senior	Nebraska
12.	Keith Winn	6-02	218	Senior	West Virginia
13.	Charlie Darrington	6-03	220	Senior	Kentucky
14.	Pat Davis	6-03	258	Senior	Syracuse
15.	James Coley	6-05	245	Senior	Clemson
16.	Darryl Ingram	6-03	225	Senior	California
17.	Duncan Parham	6-05	245	Senior	Oklahoma
18.	Cedric Davis	6-05	230	Junior	UNLV
19.	Ricky Stone	6-04	250	Senior	Texas Christian
20.	Stephen Clark	6-05	234	Junior	Texas



ALL-AMERICA PREVIEW

Arizona center is a city slicker with rural roots

By DAVE PETRUSKA
Tucson Citizen

Arizona center Joe Tofflemire is a 6-foot-2, 266-pound senior who grew up less than 100 miles from the Canadian border in Post Falls, Idaho, between the not-so-booming towns of State Line and Huetter. You can almost picture a towheaded outdoorsman with a chaw of tobacco in his mouth, wearing a plaid hat and a day-glo orange vest, as he walks into the woods beyond the potato fields with a rifle in his hands.

Right guy, wrong image.

Tofflemire, who once sported a punk haircut, enjoys the sun, but he'd rather see it through mirrored shades on a beach in Southern California. His arms of steel look as if they could have been honed from years of tossing bales of hay, but they were developed by pumping iron in the weight room while his father was busy working as an accountant, not a farmer.

"There is a little bit of Idaho in me, but not much," Tofflemire said. "My father thought Idaho would be a better place to raise kids than California. (He was born in Los Angeles.) I prefer warm weather ... but there is always going to be a bit of Idaho in me."

There wasn't enough to keep him there when it came time to pick a college.

"I was just never into hunting and fishing, and that's about all there is to do in Idaho," Tofflemire said. "I have a lot of family in Southern California, and I like to go there when I can."

The last two summers, he couldn't.

"I couldn't work out the way I wanted to in Los Angeles, so I've gotten summer jobs in Tucson the past two years," Tofflemire said. "That's helped me keep my weight up. I've gone up gradually each year from the 235 I weighed as a freshman. I've gained that extra muscle and weight without losing my quickness."

Tofflemire runs the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds, has bench-pressed 380 pounds and has a vertical leap of 38 inches.

"Joe is the best center I've been around," Wildcats Coach Dick Tomey said. "His agility and running ability really set him apart from most linemen."

After being redshirted in 1984, Tofflemire was a Football News freshman All-America in 1985. He made All-Pacific-10 Conference as a sophomore and junior.

"The honors are great, but I have no control over them," Tofflemire said. "But I've come a long way from Post Falls. To be considered one of the top centers in the country is amazing." ■



The agility and running ability of Arizona's Joe Tofflemire set him apart from most linemen.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN



Wells



Fontenot



Zandofsky



Mandarich

CENTERS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Joe Tofflemire	6-02	266	Senior	Arizona
2.	Kevin Wells	6-05	260	Senior	San Diego State
3.	John Vitale	6-01	273	Senior	Michigan
4.	Andy Sinclair	6-03	280	Senior	Stanford
5.	Jake Young	6-04	250	Junior	Nebraska
6.	Jeff Uhlenhake	6-04	256	Senior	Ohio State
7.	Frank Cornish	6-04	265	Junior	UCLA
8.	Brian Williams	6-06	287	Senior	Minnesota
9.	Alan Champagne	6-04	275	Senior	Texas
10.	Jeff Garnica	6-04	265	Senior	North Carolina

GUARDS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Steve Wisniewski	6-04	270	Senior	Penn State
2.	Mark Stepnoski	6-03	265	Senior	Pittsburgh
3.	Mike Utley	6-06	302	Senior	Washington St.
4.	Todd Nelson	6-05	285	Senior	Wisconsin
5.	Pat Crowley	6-03	280	Junior	North Carolina
6.	Eric Still	6-03	274	Junior	Tennessee
7.	Jerry Fontenot	6-04	260	Senior	Texas A&M
8.	John Stroia	6-03	262	Senior	West Virginia
9.	Don Shrader	6-02	278	Senior	Indiana
10.	Larry Rose	6-04	273	Senior	Alabama

NOTE: Anthony Phillips (Oklahoma) and Joe Wolf (Boston College) were not included because of injuries.

TACKLES

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Pat Tomberlin	6-03	300	Senior	Florida State
2.	Mike Zandofsky	6-02	299	Senior	Washington
3.	David Williams	6-05	293	Senior	Florida
4.	Tony Mandarich	6-06	303	Senior	Michigan State
5.	Bob Kratch	6-04	288	Senior	Iowa
6.	Mike Husar	6-03	287	Senior	Michigan
7.	Chris Dyko	6-06	271	Senior	Washington St.
8.	Rick Phillips	6-04	262	Senior	West Virginia
9.	Craig Stoeppel	6-04	300	Senior	Syracuse
10.	Mark Vander Poel	6-08	270	Soph.	Colorado

Michigan's Messner: Once a terror, always a terror

By STEVE KORNACKI
Ann Arbor News

When Mark Messner was young, he was a one-kid demolition crew. Now he does the same thing to offensive linemen.

"I got into everything," recalled Messner, Michigan's All-America defensive tackle. "Mom called me The Pistol. She would say that her big wish was that someday I had a kid just like me. I broke things in stores all the time. It was heaven for me, but hell for Mom. When they took me to the beach in Florida, I wore a dog harness attached to a 20-foot rope."

Messner said he got much of that restlessness from his father, Max Messner, a former linebacker for the Detroit Lions and Pittsburgh Steelers.

"My dad went for the jugular in business or as a player," he said. "He's always, 'Let's go, let's go.' ... I guess I started being like that in about the sixth grade."

He's still a whirlwind of activity, whether he's practicing, lifting weights, golfing, scuba diving or sailing.

"I cannot stand to just pass time," he said. "I wasn't cut out to be a couch potato."

Michigan defensive coordinator Lloyd Carr can't complain about that.

"Mark was an all-out guy from day one," Carr said. "He doesn't waste time, and (he) came in with the good work habits most kids need to develop. And he made an impact here from the first day, too. He was on our demo (scout) team and was something even in that setting."

Messner needs five tackles for lost yardage to pass Curtis Greer and top the school's career list. Including bowl games, he has 44 tackles for a school-record 276 yards in losses. He tied for the Big Ten Conference lead with 19 behind-the-line tackles last year. He has totaled 209 tackles, including 28 sacks.

"I'm more of a mental rather than physical player," the 6-foot-3, 244-pound senior said. "I try to put you off-balance."

Messner is trying to become more physical. He said he planned to take out a \$3,000 loan to cover his usual summer job.

"This is my last season here, and I want to be as good as I can be," he said. "I'm not getting a (summer) job. I'm going to lift weights like I never have before. My upper body is not as strong as it needs to be. I rely on my legs 90 percent of the time. I don't know what the people at the pro combines will think of my bench press. They may think I'm a dog. Heck, I can't jump, either."

Messner may be selling himself short, but he is preparing for a non-football future anyway.

"After this semester, I am going to send out resumes," the sports medicine major said. "In case football doesn't work out in the pros, I'm set that way, regardless." ■



A whirlwind of activity, Michigan's Mark Messner wasn't cut out to be a couch potato.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN



Hawkins



Grossman



Haggins



Roth

ENDS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Bill Hawkins	6-06	260	Senior	Miami (Fla.)
2.	Chris Gannon	6-05	250	Senior	SW Louisiana
3.	Marlon Brown	6-04	222	Senior	Memphis State
4.	Joe Mott	6-04	245	Senior	Iowa
5.	Eugene Hall	6-04	249	Senior	Baylor
6.	Matt Brock	6-05	257	Senior	Oregon
7.	Steve Vandegrift	6-05	277	Senior	Missouri
8.	Alfred Williams	6-06	225	Soph.	Colorado
9.	Burt Grossman	6-06	260	Junior	Pittsburgh
10.	Shane Curry	6-04	245	Soph.	Miami (Fla.)

NOTE: Eric Lindstrom (Boston College) was not included because of injury.

TACKLES

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Mark Messner	6-03	244	Senior	Michigan
2.	Tracy Rucker	6-03	258	Senior	Auburn
3.	Dennis Brown	6-04	302	Junior	Washington
4.	Rob Burnett	6-03	254	Junior	Syracuse
5.	Travis Davis	6-03	265	Junior	Michigan State
6.	Steve Llewellyn	6-06	270	Senior	Texas
7.	Mark Hall	6-05	285	Senior	SW Louisiana
8.	Eric Hayes	6-03	270	Junior	Florida State
9.	Tim Ryan	6-05	250	Junior	Southern Cal
10.	John Foley	6-03	251	Junior	Notre Dame

NOSEGUARDS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Odell Haggins	6-02	250	Junior	Florida State
2.	Dave Haight	6-03	285	Senior	Iowa
3.	Jeff Roth	6-04	255	Senior	Florida
4.	Jim Wahler	6-04	263	Senior	UCLA
5.	Bill Goldberg	6-03	266	Junior	Georgia
6.	Darrell Phillips	6-02	245	Senior	Louisiana State
7.	Benji Roland	6-04	268	Senior	Auburn
8.	Willie Wyatt	6-01	255	Junior	Alabama
9.	Dana Wells	6-01	261	Senior	Arizona
10.	Majett Whiteside	6-02	260	Senior	California



ALL-AMERICA PREVIEW

What you see is what you get? Not with Sancho

By GEORGE MORRIS
Baton Rouge State-Times

Some linebackers look the part, but not Ron Sancho.

"I tease him that he has a businessman's body," said John Mitchell, Louisiana State's outside linebackers coach. "Ron Sancho is the type football player that if you look at him in street clothes or look at him naked, you don't want to play him—until you put him on the field."

Sancho is proof of how appearances can be deceiving. The 6-foot-3, 225-pound senior outside linebacker was LSU's fourth-leading tackler last fall with 86, including 14 against Florida. He led the Tigers in quarterback sacks (nine), hurrying quarterbacks into incompletions (tied with six) and fumble recoveries (three).

Sancho's performance over the last three years has been reminiscent of former LSU star Michael Brooks, who had all the physical tools—bulk, strength, speed—that Sancho lacks.

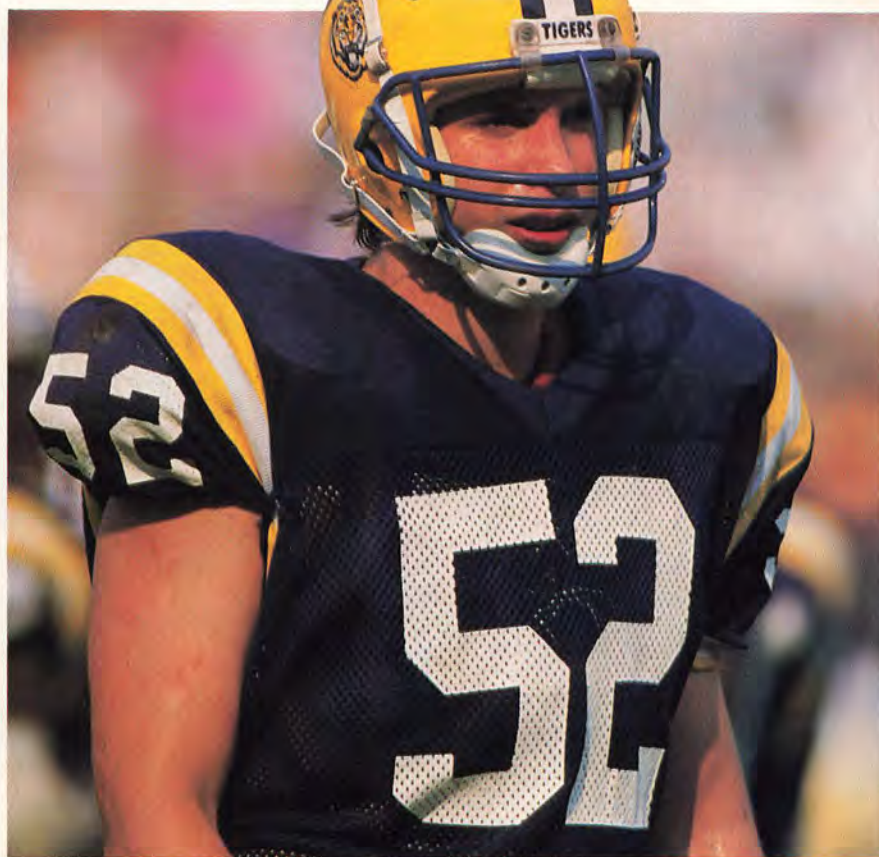
"Not in stature, but in personality and in attitude, I try to be like Brooks," Sancho said. "... In his attitude, there was nobody who was going to run on his side. He took it as a personal insult, and I can see what he meant now, because I take it as a personal insult when you run on my side."

It took a while for Sancho to earn the respect that keeps offenses from attacking your side of the field. After being red-shirted as a freshman in 1984, he was targeted for backup duty in 1985 until the projected starter at outside linebacker injured himself. Sancho started every regular-season game that season.

The next year, however, linebackers coach Kurt Schottenheimer left for the Cleveland Browns. Under the new coach, Mike Nolan, Sancho played regularly but rotated in and out of the starting spot. Then Nolan left, and Sancho had to prove himself to his third position coach in three years. Mitchell said he reserved judgment on everybody until he could examine game films.

"Number 52 kept making plays, and eventually I went to (defensive coordinator) Pete Jenkins and said, 'Who in the heck is 52?'" Mitchell said. "He said, 'Ron Sancho,' and everybody said: 'My God, you're not going to like Sancho because he's not very strong. He doesn't have a football body.' But the guy made plays. ...

"If you put a clock on Ron, he's not going to be very impressive. If you ask him to lift weights, he's not going to lift a lot of weights. But when you put him on the football field, he's not limited at all." ■



Although he lacks the physical tools — bulk, strength and speed — Louisiana State's Ron Sancho makes the plays.

LINEBACKERS



Leverenz



D. Thomas



Wooden

INSIDE

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Jon Leverenz.....	6-03	228	Junior	Minnesota
2.	Rod Carter.....	6-01	231	Senior	Miami (Fla.)
3.	LeRoy Etienne.....	6-01	230	Senior	Nebraska
4.	Percy Snow.....	6-03	224	Junior	Michigan State
5.	Ned Bolcar.....	6-02	234	Senior	Notre Dame
6.	Britt Hager.....	6-01	225	Senior	Texas
7.	Keith DeLong.....	6-02	219	Senior	Tennessee
8.	Greg Gilbert.....	6-02	205	Senior	Alabama
9.	Tuineau Alipate.....	6-02	238	Senior	Washington St.
10.	Chris Haering.....	6-02	210	Junior	West Virginia
11.	Willie Bates.....	6-02	225	Senior	Indiana
12.	Brad Quast.....	6-02	248	Junior	Iowa
13.	DeMond Winston.....	6-03	233	Junior	Vanderbilt
14.	Jerry Olsavsky.....	6-02	218	Senior	Pittsburgh
15.	Steve Brown.....	6-04	220	Soph.	Auburn

OUTSIDE

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Broderick Thomas.....	6-03	235	Senior	Nebraska
2.	John Roper.....	6-02	235	Senior	Texas A&M
3.	Derrick Thomas.....	6-04	222	Senior	Alabama
4.	Carnell Lake.....	6-00	204	Senior	UCLA
5.	Aaron Wallace.....	6-04	230	Junior	Texas A&M
6.	Mike McCray.....	6-03	221	Senior	Ohio State
7.	Terry Wooden.....	6-02	225	Junior	Syracuse
8.	Craig Ogletree.....	6-03	222	Junior	Auburn
9.	Ron Sancho.....	6-03	225	Senior	Louisiana State
10.	Dale Jackson.....	6-02	244	Senior	West Virginia
11.	Tracy Rogers.....	6-02	250	Senior	Fresno State
12.	Antonio Goss.....	6-04	220	Senior	North Carolina
13.	Huey Richardson.....	6-05	233	Soph.	Florida
14.	James Francis.....	6-05	232	Junior	Baylor
15.	Darnell Warren.....	6-00	236	Junior	West Virginia

NOTE: Eric Smith (UCLA) not included because of injury. Eric Hill (Louisiana State) was not included because of academic problems.

Clemson's shy cornerback lets his play speak for him

By BOB GILLESPIE
Columbia (S.C.) State

Finding the leader of Clemson's 1987 defense was easy—if you had a good set of ears. All you had to do was follow the sound of Michael Dean Perry's voice. The Tigers' defensive end never met a microphone he didn't like.

By comparison, cornerback Donnell Woolford makes interviewers lean close to pick up his soft voice—if he talks at all. Tales of his shyness are almost as widespread as those of Perry's brashness.

"Donnell used to sit in the back of the meeting room—he still does—and as soon as I'd look back there, he'd look at the floor," Clemson secondary coach Bill Oliver said. "At first I thought he wasn't listening, but on the field he had no problems. He just wouldn't make eye contact."

"... This spring we talked about his future, and I did all the talking. He just said 'yes' or 'no,' and it was still the longest conversation I've had with him."

Woolford's nickname is Wolf—apparently as in lone wolf. "I like to be by myself, not bother anyone," he said.

Woolford can talk; he just chooses not to.

"I've never been the type to (brag)," the 5-foot-10, 195-pound senior said. "Even when I was little, I didn't say anything. I thought when I got into athletics I'd come out some, but I haven't much. That's just me. Sometimes I think it might make me better on the football field if I'd come out more—just getting myself ready to play, talking junk and all that. Every now and then I'll try it, but it feels kind of strange."

In 1987, Woolford intercepted four passes, broke up 14 more and made 49 tackles, most of them the teeth-rattling kind that made receivers hesitant to venture into his area. In man-to-man coverage, Woolford allowed just seven passes to be caught against him all year. In Clemson's first six games, he allowed none.

And there were his punt returns: 21 for 326 yards (15.5-yard average) and two touchdowns, numbers that placed him third in Division I-A. The Sporting News named him a second-team All-America.

"Last year was a little more than I expected," Woolford said. "I thought I'd get a little better than my sophomore year, but I didn't think I'd make All-America."

Said Oliver: "He's the best I've ever coached ... in 26 years. I've coached a number of All-Americans, pro draft picks, but this guy has more potential than all of those put together."

"Most defensive backs, even a lot in pro ball, are good in different categories—like they say he can 'cover well' or he's a 'hitter'—but that's all he does. Donnell possesses all that—man-to-man, zone, run support. He's a devastating hitter, the best tackler on the team. The damn guy's just amazing." ■



Teams attempting to throw on Clemson rarely venture into Donnell Woolford's area of the field.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

CORNERBACKS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Deion Sanders.....	6-00	195	Senior	Florida State
2.	Donnell Woolford	5-10	195	Senior	Clemson
3.	Stevon Moore.....	6-00	205	Senior	Mississippi
4.	Darryl Henley.....	5-10	165	Senior	UCLA
5.	Eddie Johnson	5-10	164	Senior	Penn State
6.	Ben Smith.....	5-11	180	Junior	Georgia
7.	Adrian Jones	6-00	184	Junior	Missouri
8.	Harlon Barnett.....	6-00	188	Junior	Michigan State
9.	John Hardy	6-00	170	Junior	California
10.	A.J. Greene	5-10	165	Senior	Wake Forest
11.	Johnny Jackson	6-01	193	Senior	Houston
12.	Mario Mitchell.....	5-10	180	Senior	San Diego St.
13.	David Arnold	6-03	195	Senior	Michigan
14.	Robert Robinson	5-11	185	Senior	South Carolina
15.	James Lott	5-09	175	Junior	Clemson

NOTE: Donald Ellis (Miami, Fla.) was not included because of injury.

SAFETIES

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Louis Oliver	6-02	227	Senior	Florida
2.	Markus Paul	6-02	200	Senior	Syracuse
3.	Falanda Newton	6-02	200	Senior	Texas Christian
4.	Robert Blackmon	5-11	198	Junior	Baylor
5.	Mark Carrier	6-01	180	Soph.	Southern Cal
6.	Kermit Kendrick	6-02	200	Senior	Alabama
7.	Cleveland Colter.....	6-01	195	Junior	Southern Cal
8.	Donald Harris	6-01	180	Soph.	Texas Tech
9.	Steve Atwater.....	6-04	216	Senior	Arkansas
10.	James DeBow	5-10	196	Senior	Arizona
11.	Ernie Purnsley	5-11	191	Senior	Wake Forest
12.	Marc Foster	5-11	195	Senior	Purdue
13.	Rod Smith	6-02	195	Junior	Oklahoma State
14.	John Miller	6-01	194	Senior	Michigan State
15.	Greg Staples	6-00	203	Senior	Auburn

NOTE: Merv Scurllark (Texas Tech) was not included because of injury.



Henley



Blackmon



Colter



Atwater



ALL-AMERICA PREVIEW

Hill chalks up big yardage for Arizona

By DAVE PETRUSKA
Tucson Citizen

While Notre Dame's Tim Brown was earning national headlines and eventually a Heisman Trophy for his all-around play last year, Arizona wide receiver Derek Hill was quietly putting up numbers that almost equaled Brown's junior-year statistics.

Hill compiled 1,672 all-purpose yards last season to finish among the national leaders. Brown had gained 1,937 all-purpose yards as a junior, with his 254 yards rushing providing the margin between their totals. Hill rushed nine times for only 16 yards in 1987. But he also gained 798 yards on 45 receptions, 237 yards on 28 punt returns and 621 yards on 29 kickoff returns.

"I don't think there's any question that Derek is one of the best big-play men around," Arizona Coach Dick Tomey said.

Though you won't see a "Hill for Heisman" campaign popping up, All-America acclaim is a possibility after Hill finally blossomed into the big-play performer Wildcats fans had been expecting to see since his highly touted arrival in Tucson. Hill's biggest improvement was in the return game, especially punts. He used to make Arizona fans nervous by backtracking and losing yardage, but he averaged 8.5 yards per return and did not have one return for minus yardage last year.

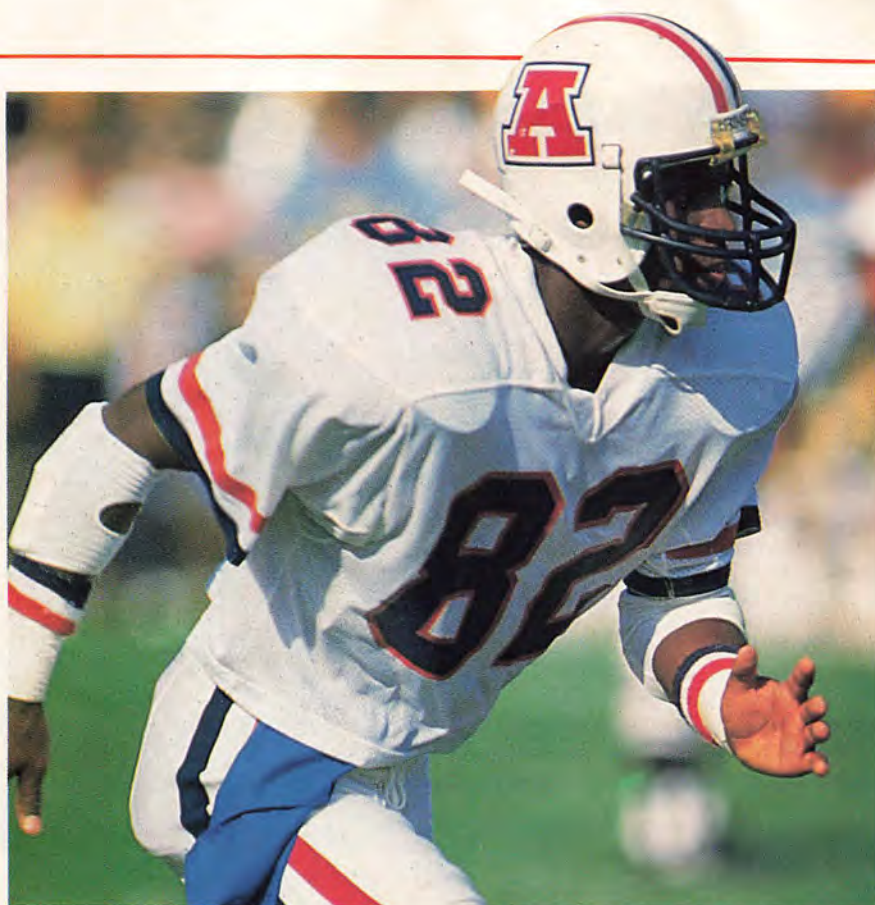
"He has raised his level of play," Tomey said. "He is finally putting forth the effort."

Tomey couldn't say that last year. He was unhappy with Hill's effort in spring practice. But Hill came back with a new attitude in the fall and went out to have his big year, which included gaining 340 all-purpose yards at Stanford, the second-best single-game effort in school history.

"I was going through an adjustment last spring," Hill said. "I was skeptical about the new offense (a combination of the wishbone and the run-and-shoot). I was being a little selfish. I talked with the coaches, and they made me realize the team needed leadership from the older guys."

Hill's numbers could increase this season as the Wildcats return with a year's experience in the new offense and a pair of talented quarterbacks, senior Bobby Watters and sophomore Ronald Veal.

"I expect Derek to have a big year," Tomey said. "We are going to try and get the ball in his hands as often as we can. He doesn't look big (6-foot-2, 189 pounds), but he's very strong and fast." ■



Arizona's Derek Hill has the ability to break tackles as well as run away from defenders.

SPECIALISTS

ALL-PURPOSE

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Eric Metcalf	5-09	178	Senior	Texas
2.	Derek Hill.....	6-02	189	Senior	Arizona
3.	Kendal Smith.....	5-09	185	Senior	Utah State
4.	Barry Sanders	5-08	190	Junior	Oklahoma State
5.	Tyrone Thurman.....	5-03	135	Senior	Texas Tech
6.	Mark Green	5-11	183	Senior	Notre Dame
7.	Dana Brinson.....	5-09	170	Senior	Nebraska
8.	Alan Grant	5-10	187	Junior	Stanford
9.	Eric Wilkerson	5-09	180	Senior	Kent State
10.	Chris Gaiters	6-01	170	Junior	Minnesota
11.	Everett Ross	5-11	180	Senior	Ohio State
12.	Derek Loville	5-10	196	Junior	Oregon
13.	Darryl Tillman	6-00	179	Junior	Southern Miss
14.	Brian Taylor	5-10	175	Senior	Oregon State
15.	Anthony Roberson	5-08	154	Senior	Air Force

NOTE: Terance Mathis (New Mexico) was not included because of academic problems.

KICKERS

Rk.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Class	College
1.	Chris Kinzer (K)	6-00	220	Senior	Virginia Tech
2.	Mike Schuh (P)	6-01	178	Senior	Arizona State
3.	Collin Mackie (K)	5-10	165	Soph.	South Carolina
4.	Chris Becker (P)	6-02	185	Senior	Texas Christian
5.	Jeff Shudak (K)	5-10	177	Soph.	Iowa State
6.	Alfredo Velasco (K)	5-10	185	Junior	UCLA
7.	Wayne Clements (K)	6-00	175	Junior	Texas
8.	Alex Waits (P)	6-03	195	Soph.	Texas
9.	Scott Slater (K)	6-00	180	Senior	Texas A&M
10.	Wilson Hoyle (K)	5-10	167	Junior	Wake Forest
11.	John Langeloh (K)	6-02	185	Soph.	Michigan State
12.	Kirk Dennis (K)	5-11	165	Senior	Oregon
13.	Alan Zendejas (K)	5-08	186	Junior	Arizona State
14.	Keith English (P)	6-03	215	Senior	Colorado
15.	Pat Thompson (P)	5-11	200	Senior	Brigham Young



Green



Brinson



Schuh

The Sporting News



1

MICHIGAN

The talent and intangibles are in place for the Wolverines to capture the national crown. Bo Schembechler's squad will dominate in the trenches, thanks to such personnel as center John Vitale and defensive tackle Mark Messner. John Kolesar and Greg McMurtry head a first-rate receiving corps. The schedule is favorable, with just four potential roadblocks. Three of them, Notre Dame, Miami (Fla.) and Ohio State, face transition years. The fourth is Iowa. This battle will determine the Big Ten champion and possibly the national champion.

*Flanker
John Kolesar*

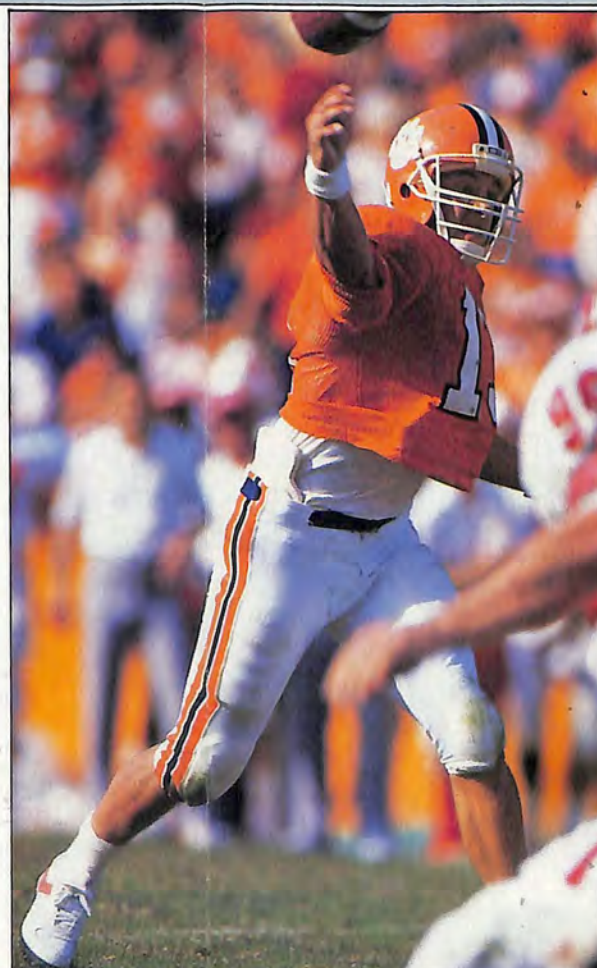


3

CLEMSON

With enough talented personnel at the offensive skill positions to supply the entire ACC, the Tigers will contend for the national crown. Clemson lacks only at quarterback, where Rodney Williams must improve on last year's performance. The receiving corps features future pros in Gary Cooper and Keith Jennings. Cornerback Donnell Woolford, safety Gene Beasley, linebacker Jesse Hatcher and tackle Raymond Chavous head a tenacious, disciplined defense. The Tigers' biggest test comes in September against Florida State.

*Quarterback
Rodney Williams*



*Tailback
Sammie Smith*



5

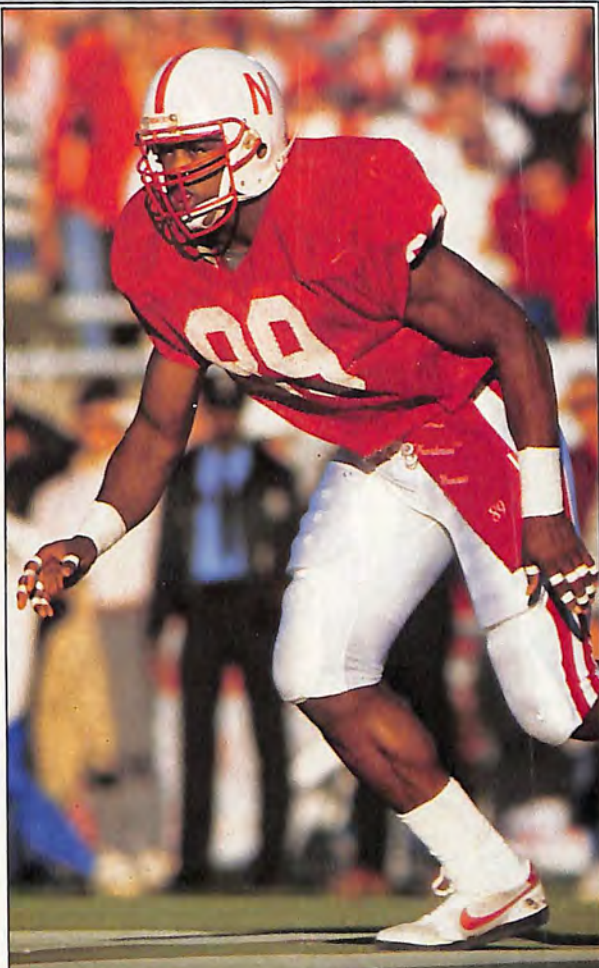
AUBURN

Thanks to the best defense in the land, the Tigers should make a return trip to the Sugar Bowl. Noseguard Benji Roland and tackles Tracy Rocker and Ron Stallworth don't give an inch, and linebackers Brian Smith and Craig Ogletree are capable of making the big play. Cornerback Greg Staples leads a secondary full of headhunters. Wide receiver Lawyer Tillman is the marquee name on offense. With tight end Walter Reeves and wideouts Freddy Weygand and Alexander Wright also providing good targets, the Tigers should light up the scoreboard.

*Wide receiver
Lawyer Tillman*



*Linebacker
Broderick Thomas*



4

NEBRASKA

Led by versatile quarterback Steve Taylor, wingback Dana Brinson and linebackers Broderick Thomas and LeRoy Etienne, the Cornhuskers will knock off archrival Oklahoma and reappear in the Orange Bowl after a four-year absence. Believe it or not, Nebraska's main areas of concern are the offensive and defensive lines. The loss of defensive tackles Neil Smith and Tim Rother left Tom Osborne with gaping holes and no proven backups. Tackle Bob Sledge, guard Andy Keeler and center Jake Young return to bolster the offensive front.

2

FLORIDA STATE

Should Bobby Bowden find a capable quarterback to replace Danny McManus, this team may go down in history as the finest of the decade. Two early games likely will decide the Seminoles' fate. Victories over archrival Miami (Fla.) and Clemson would practically assure a No. 1 national ranking entering the season finale vs. Florida. Tailback Sammie Smith, offensive tackle Pat Tomberlin, cornerback Deion Sanders and noseguard Odell Haggins are just four of the numerous standouts on this unbelievably deep squad.

6

OKLAHOMA

For the first time in seemingly an eternity, Barry Switzer's troops find themselves battling for a Top 10 berth instead of the national crown. Major reconstruction on the offensive and defensive lines makes Oklahoma appear beatable. While the offensive backfield, led by tailback Anthony Stafford and quarterback Jamelle Holieway, ranks among the nation's best, the depth of past Oklahoma powerhouses is missing. Can the Sooners overcome heavy graduation losses without missing a beat? Yes. Most programs would be devastated, but not Switzer's.

*Halfback
Anthony Stafford*



8

SOUTHERN CAL

The Trojans enter their 100th season of football with the makings of their finest squad of the decade. The defense is overloaded with budding stars, including safeties Cleveland Colter and Mark Carrier, tackle Tim Ryan and linebackers Michael Williams and Junior Seau. The offense revolves around Rodney Peete, one of the best quarterbacks in the country, tailback Steven Webster, who is coming off a severe knee injury, and wide receiver Erik Affholter, who gets little ink but makes the clutch catches.

*Safety
Mark Carrier*

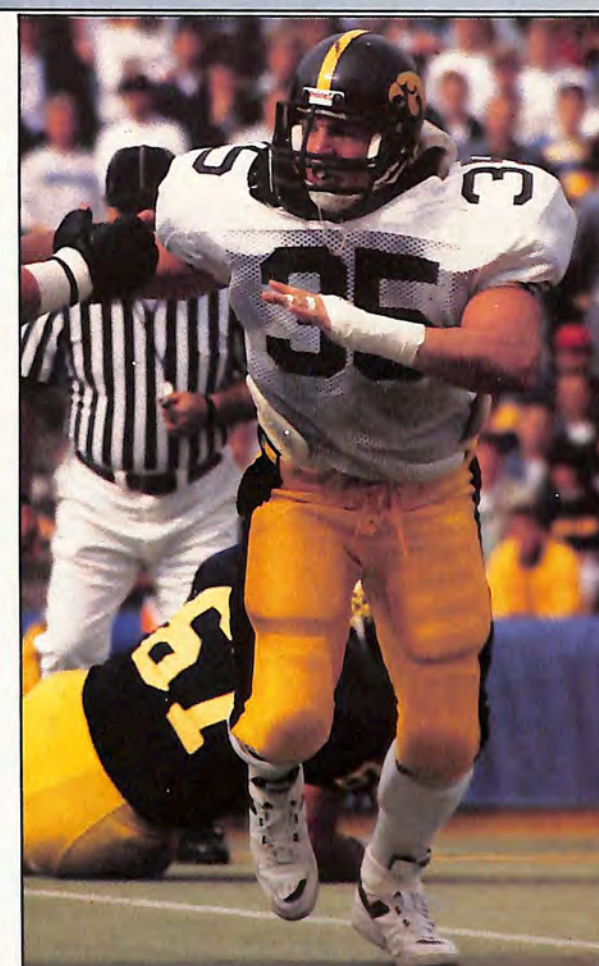


10

IOWA

Keep an eye on the Hawkeyes, led by Chuck Hartlieb, the most underrated quarterback in college football. An October 15 meeting with Michigan is all that stands between Iowa and the Rose Bowl and, one step further, the national crown. While lacking the marquee names, the Hawkeyes sport a defense that makes opponents work for every yard. Nose-guard Dave Haight, defensive end Joe Mott and linebacker Brad Quast rate among the best at their respective positions. Hayden Fry has built Iowa into one of the finest programs in the country.

*Linebacker
Brad Quast*



7

WEST VIRGINIA

The Mountaineers are headed nowhere but up. Quarterback Major Harris will make a run at the Heisman, the line-backing corps, featuring Darnell Warren, Chris Haering, Robert Pickett and Dale Jackson, takes a back seat to virtually no other, tailback A.B. Brown is vastly underrated and the offensive line ranks among the nation's best. Don Nehlen's squad showed rapid improvement last year, and that success should carry over into this season. With victories over rivals Pittsburgh and Penn State, West Virginia will be playing on January 2.

*Tailback
A.B. Brown*



9

GEORGIA

Vince Dooley has assembled possibly his best team since the days of Herschel Walker. The Bulldogs' offense, always productive but seldom spectacular, could be explosive. Tailback Tim Worley and fullback Keith Henderson return after a year of academic ineligibility, joining tailback Rodney Hampton and fullback Alphonso Ellis to form an impressive backfield. Split end John Thomas and tight end Troy Sadowski head a solid set of receivers. Defensively, tackle Bill Goldberg and cornerback Ben Smith are standouts.

*Tailback
Rodney Hampton*



11

WASHINGTON

Don James fields an experienced Huskies squad capable of making it to the Rose Bowl after back-to-back disappointing seasons. The defense will be vastly improved from a year ago, with several underclassmen gaining a year of experience. Tackle Dennis Brown has the potential to be the top selection in the 1990 NFL draft, and end Travis Richardson and linebacker Martin Harrison both have bright futures. Safety Eugene Burkhalter reminds many of Kenny Easley. The offense has proven talent at most positions, including quarterback Cary Conklin.

*Fullback
Aaron Jenkins*



12

ALABAMA

Talent is plentiful in Tuscaloosa and the Crimson Tide will roll again. With a few breaks, the Tide could capture its first national crown since Bear Bryant stalked the sidelines. Potential award winners abound, including tailback Bobby Humphrey, who may well bring 'Bama its first Heisman Trophy, linebacker Derrick Thomas (Butkus Award) and safety Kermit Kendrick (Jim Thorpe Award). With Bill Curry at the helm and the addition of Homer Smith as offensive coordinator, the Tide is close to reclaiming its permanent spot in the Top 10.

*Linebacker
Derrick Thomas*

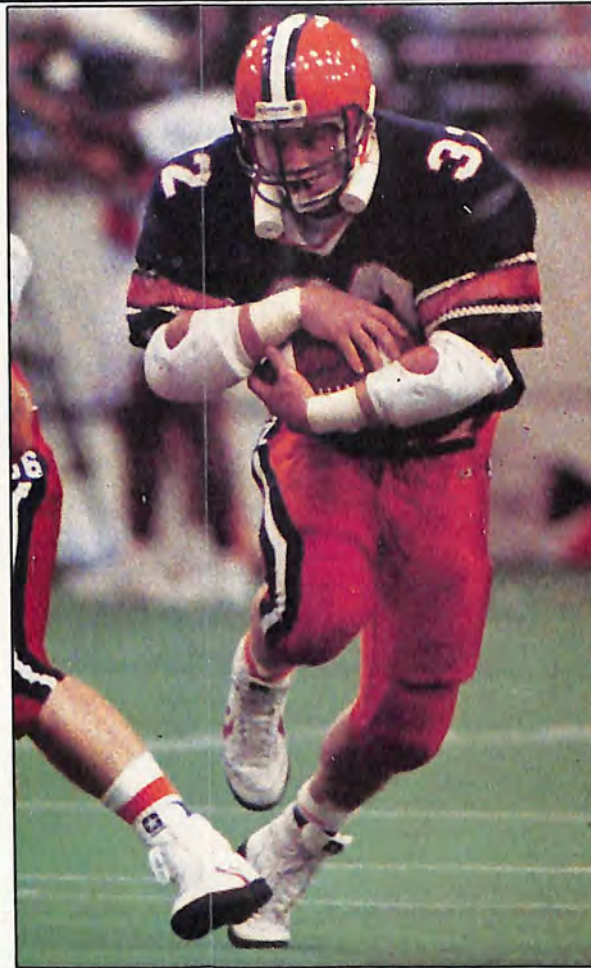


14

SYRACUSE

The undefeated, once-tied Orangemen were the Beasts of the East in '87 and could repeat the feat again if a productive replacement is found for Don McPherson, who enjoyed the finest season of any quarterback in this decade. The offensive line is capable of dominance, the skill-position talent is excellent and the linebacking and secondary units are top-notch. Fullback Daryl Johnston, defensive tackle Rob Burnett, linebacker Terry Wooden and safety Markus Paul garner little publicity but rate among the best at their respective jobs.

*Fullback
Daryl Johnston*



16

TEXAS

The Longhorns are back, and an impressive array of athletes will take them to the Cotton Bowl. Offensively, tailback Eric Metcalf has his sights set on the Heisman, and center Alan Champagne heads an imposing front line. Defensively, tackles Steve Llewellyn and Ken Hackmack form the nation's top tandem, and Britt Hager is a linebacker extraordinaire. David McWilliams has made a name for himself in a short time, and Texas has momentum on its side. The Longhorns finally won a bowl game, trouncing Pittsburgh in the Bluebonnet Bowl.

*Center
Alan Champagne*



13

UCLA

Terry Donahue's Bruins face a rebuilding year, but with Troy Aikman calling the signals, "reloading" is a better description. Aikman is the nation's best quarterback and ranks among the preseason Heisman favorites. The Bruins have talented but unproven personnel at wide receiver, in the secondary and on the offensive line. Should such players as center Frank Cornish, offensive guard Rick Meyer, safety Eric Turner and red-shirted linebacker Eric Smith fulfill their potential, the Bruins may find themselves playing their final game at home on January 2.

*Linebacker
Carnell Lake*

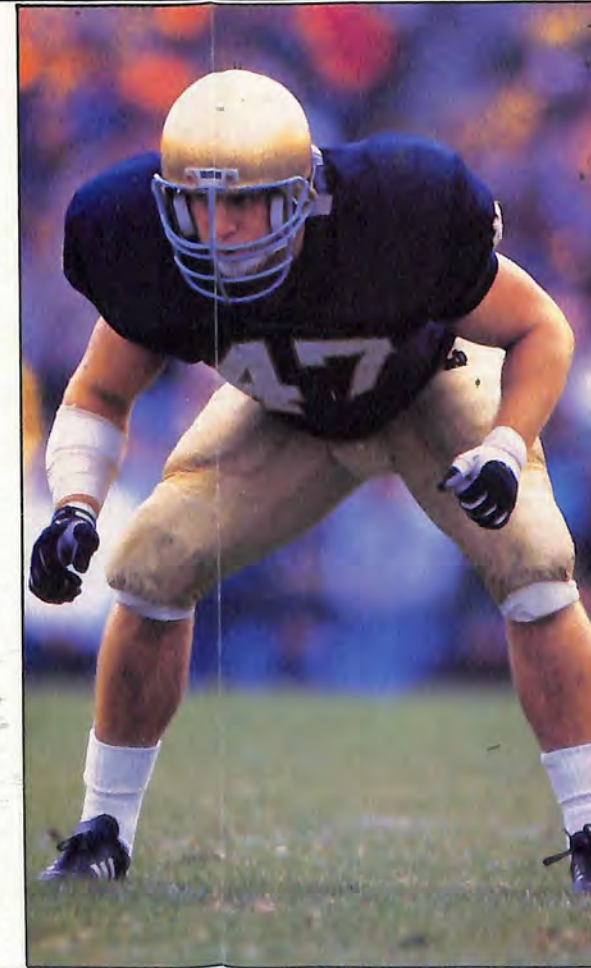


15

NOTRE DAME

The Fighting Irish have improved dramatically each of the last two seasons under Lou Holtz and will continue to do so this year. In fact, the Irish will contend for the national crown in '89. Offensively, flanker Ricky Watters has the right stuff to succeed Tim Brown. Linebacker Ned Bolcar heads a rugged defense. The only weakness is the offensive line, where several highly touted yet untested recruits must fill the gaps. A demanding schedule includes skirmishes with Michigan, Pittsburgh, Miami (Fla.), Penn State and Southern California.

*Linebacker
Ned Bolcar*

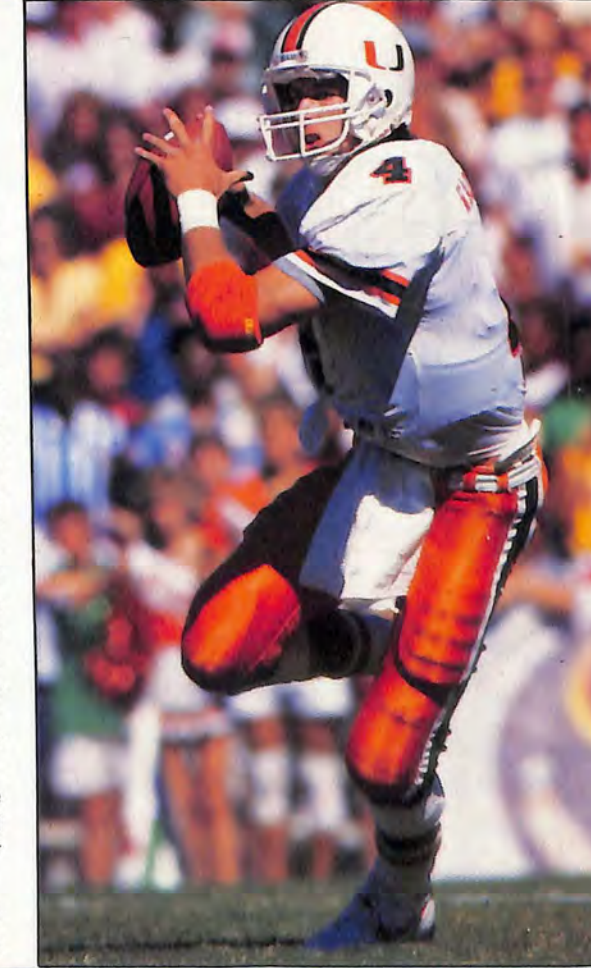


17

MIAMI (FLA.)

After dominating opponents in recent years, the defending national champions may have to settle for winning by smaller margins in '88. This year's edition faces a rebuilding job, which means that its talent matches but does not surpass that of many of its foes. Yet as long as Jimmy Johnson presides over the Miami program, bank on the fact that the Hurricanes will outplay most others. Quarterback Steve Walsh, fullback Cleveland Gary and center Rod Holder are offensive standouts, while end Bill Hawkins and linebacker Rod Carter anchor a solid defense.

*Quarterback
Steve Walsh*



18

PENN STATE

With a healthy Blair Thomas, the Nittany Lions will contend for a Top 10 ranking; without the tailback, who is recovering from knee surgery, Joe Paterno's team will struggle to stay in the Top 20. Beyond Thomas, a Heisman candidate, Penn State has little to offer from its offensive backfield other than under-rated fullback John Greene. Regardless, the front line features one of the top guards in the country in Steve Wisniewski. Cornerback Eddie Johnson and linebacker Keith Karpinski are the headliners on a defense lacking in proven personnel.

*Cornerback
Eddie Johnson*



19

OHIO STATE

While the firing of Earle Bruce was undoubtedly unjustified, his replacement, John Cooper, likely will bring home a national crown in the '90s. Cooper is just what the Buckeyes need to return to the glory days of the Woody Hayes era. Ohio State's strengths are on offense, where center Jeff Uhlenhake and tackle Joe Staysniak are capable of opening huge holes for tailbacks Carlos Snow and Marc Hicks, a transfer from California. Lack of depth may pose problems on defense, a squad led by tackle Mike Showalter and linebacker Mike McCray.

*Linebacker
Mike McCray*

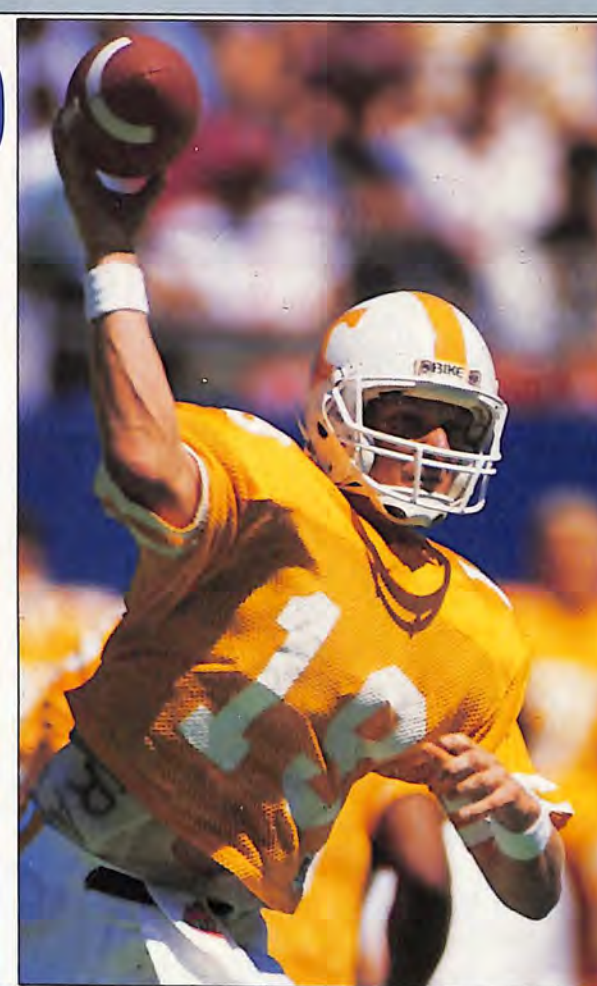


20

TENNESSEE

The Volunteers have become annual members of the Top 20 since Johnny Majors returned to Big Orange country. Offensive weapons include quarterback Jeff Francis and tailbacks Reggie Cobb and Keith Davis. Such defensive stalwarts as linebacker Keith DeLong and tackle Marion Hobby assure the Vols a comfortable spot among the nation's elite. Deep in talent at the skill positions, the Vols need more consistent line play in order to move up the ladder. Should Francis continue to improve, Tennessee, with a less-than-formidable schedule, could follow suit.

*Quarterback
Jeff Francis*



TSN's SECOND 20

21. COLORADO

Linemen better than Oklahoma's and Nebraska's indicate the Buffs' progress.

22. MINNESOTA

If defense improves, the Gophers can make a serious run for the Rose Bowl.

23. PITTSBURGH

Gottfried ranks with the best and the Panthers' future looks bright.

24. OKLAHOMA STATE

The Cowboys remain under the cloud of NCAA investigation. Oh, Mr. Dykes!

25. LOUISIANA STATE

Playing one of toughest slates around, Tigers need healthy Harvey Williams.

26. TEXAS TECH

The Red Raiders, deep at the skill positions, rate as the nation's sleeper team.

27. MICHIGAN STATE

Ranking based on the assumption that McAllister and Ezor will improve.

28. ARKANSAS

Miami debacle of '87 sent Razorbacks reeling. Hatfield won't allow same in '88.

29. FLORIDA

Well-stocked Gators are one year away from contending for the national crown.

30. VIRGINIA

Having done the improbable (winning), Welsh sets his sights on the Top 20.

31. TEXAS A&M

The Aggies must overcome a difficult schedule and an NCAA investigation.

32. NORTH CAROLINA

With Crum's overdue departure, the Tar Heels will return to national prominence.

33. ARIZONA

Thanks to a favorable schedule, the Wildcats have Top 20 potential.

34. INDIANA

With a little luck, the improving Hoosiers could be in Pasadena on January 2.

35. TULANE

Green Wave afforded a Top 40 rating thanks to the talented Terrence Jones.

36. OREGON

Offense will carry the Ducks to their first bowl trip under Brooks.

37. BRIGHAM YOUNG

The Cougars remain a threat with more talent than ever before at quarterback.

38. MISSOURI

The potent Tigers will battle for third place in the Big Eight.

39. BAYLOR

The Bears will surprise folks with an offense that ranks second to none in SWC.

40. GEORGIA TECH

Yellow Jackets will rebound from a disappointing '87 and return to bowl scene.

TOP 40 SCHEDULE RATINGS

Team	Opp. '87 Wln. Pct. (Rnk.)
Michigan.....	.598 (5)
Florida State.....	.599 (4)
Clemson.....	.504 (26)
Nebraska.....	.542 (19)
Auburn.....	.537 (T20)
Oklahoma.....	.500 (T27)
West Virginia.....	.524 (24)
Southern California.....	.566 (T13)
Georgia.....	.500 (T27)
Iowa.....	.455 (38)
Washington.....	.545 (18)
Alabama.....	.602 (3)
UCLA.....	.488 (T30)
Syracuse.....	.467 (T36)
Notre Dame.....	.590 (7)
Texas.....	.553 (16)
Miami (Fla.).....	.589 (8)
Penn State.....	.578 (T9)
Ohio State.....	.631 (1)
Tennessee.....	.537 (T20)
Colorado.....	.471 (T34)
Minnesota.....	.467 (T36)
Pittsburgh.....	.566 (T13)
Oklahoma State.....	.516 (25)
Louisiana State.....	.627 (2)
Texas Tech.....	.533 (T22)
Michigan State.....	.549 (17)
Arkansas.....	.488 (T30)
Florida.....	.533 (T22)
Virginia.....	.450 (39)
Texas A&M.....	.575 (11)
North Carolina.....	.578 (T9)
Arizona.....	.595 (6)
Indiana.....	.479 (32)
Tulane.....	.471 (T34)
Oregon.....	.474 (33)
Brigham Young.....	.500 (T27)
Missouri.....	.574 (12)
Baylor.....	.447 (40)
Georgia Tech.....	.554 (15)

*Indicates neutral site

Games vs. '87 Bowl Teams	Total	Home	Road	Neutral
5	3	2	0	
6	2	4	0	
3	2	1	0	
5	2	2	1	
5	2	2	1	
4	1	2	1	
3	2	1	0	
5	3	2	0	
4	1	2	1	
3	1	2	0	
4	2	2	0	
6	2	3	1	
3	2	1	0	
3	1	2	0	
7	4	3	0	
4	2	1	1	
6	3	3	0	
6	2	4	0	
7	3	4	0	
4	2	2	0	
4	2	2	0	
3	1	2	0	
4	2	2	0	
4	2	2	0	
3	1	2	0	
4	2	1	1	
2	2	0	0	
6	1	4	1	
5	2	3	0	
6	3	3	0	
3	2	1	0	
2	1	1	0	
4	3	1	0	
4	1	3	0	
5	2	3	0	
3	2	1	0	
4	2	2	0	

Games vs. Top 40 Teams	Total	Home	Road	Neutral
7	4	3	0	
5	2	3	0	
4	2	2	0	
6	3	2	1	
6	3	2	1	
8	2	5	1	
3	2	1	0	
6	4	2	0	
4	2	1	1	
6	3	3	0	
4	2	2	0	
6	2	3	1	
5	2	3	0	
4	1	3	0	
6	3	3	0	
7	4	3	0	
6	2	4	0	
8	3	5	0	
4	2	2	0	
5	2	3	0	
4	2	2	0	
5	3	2	0	
6	3	2	1	
8	4	4	0	
6	2	3	1	
6	3	3	0	
5	2	3	0	
4	2	1	1	
4	3	1	0	
8	3	4	1	
5	3	2	0	
6	4	2	0	
6	4	2	0	
2	1	1	0	
4	2	2	0	
2	1	1	0	
6	3	3	0	
4	2	2	0	
4	1	3	0	

Top 40 Opponents

@Notre Dame, Miami (Fla.), Michigan St., @Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, @Ohio State
 @Miami (Fla.), @Clemson, Michigan State, @Tulane, Florida
 Florida State, @Georgia Tech, @Virginia, North Carolina
 *Texas A&M, @UCLA, Oklahoma State, Missouri, Colorado, @Oklahoma
 Tennessee, North Carolina, @Louisiana State, @Florida, Georgia, *Alabama
 @UNC, Arizona, @USC, Texas, @Colorado, @Oklahoma State, @Missouri, Nebraska
 @Pittsburgh, Penn State, Syracuse
 Oklahoma, @Arizona, Oregon, Washington, @UCLA, Notre Dame
 Tennessee, *Florida, @Auburn, Georgia Tech
 Colorado, @Michigan State, Michigan, @Indiana, Ohio State, @Minnesota
 UCLA, @Southern California, @Oregon, Arizona
 @Texas, @Texas A&M, @Tennessee, Penn State, Louisiana State, *Auburn
 Nebraska, @Washington, @Arizona, @Oregon, Southern California
 @Ohio State, @Penn State, @West Virginia, Pittsburgh
 Michigan, @Michigan State, @Pittsburgh, Miami (Fla.), Penn State, @USC
 @Brigham Young, *Oklahoma, Arkansas, @Texas Tech, @Baylor, Texas A&M
 Florida State, @Michigan, Missouri, @Notre Dame, @LSU, Arkansas, Brigham Young
 @Virginia, Syracuse, @Alabama, @West Virginia, Pittsburgh, @Notre Dame
 Syracuse, @Pitt, LSU, @Indiana, @Minnesota, @Michigan State, @Iowa, Michigan
 @Georgia, Louisiana State, @Auburn, Alabama
 @Iowa, Oklahoma State, Oklahoma, @Missouri, @Nebraska
 @Indiana, Ohio State, @Michigan, Iowa
 Ohio State, West Virginia, Notre Dame, @Penn State, @Syracuse
 Texas A&M, @Colorado, @Nebraska, Missouri, Oklahoma, *Texas Tech
 Texas A&M, @Tennessee, @Ohio St., @Florida, Auburn, @Alabama, Miami (Fla.), Tulane
 @Arizona, Baylor, @Texas A&M, @Arkansas, Texas, *Oklahoma State
 Notre Dame, @Florida State, Iowa, @Michigan, Ohio State, @Indiana
 Texas Tech, @Texas, @Baylor, Texas A&M, @Miami (Fla.)
 Louisiana State, Auburn, *Georgia, @Florida State
 Penn State, Georgia Tech, Clemson, @North Carolina
 *Nebraska, @LSU, Alabama, @Okla. St., Texas Tech, Baylor, @Arkansas, @Texas
 Oklahoma, @Auburn, Georgia Tech, @Clemson, Virginia
 Texas Tech, @Oklahoma, Southern California, UCLA, @Washington, Oregon
 @Missouri, Ohio State, Minnesota, @Michigan, Iowa, Michigan State
 Florida State, @Louisiana State
 @Southern California, Washington, UCLA, @Arizona
 @Miami (Fla.), Texas
 Indiana, @Miami (Fla.), @Oklahoma State, @Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma
 @Texas Tech, @Texas A&M, Arkansas, Texas
 @Virginia, Clemson, @North Carolina, @Georgia

Others may flip-flop, but Clemson stays on top

By DOUG DOUGHTY
Roanoke Times & World-News

Almost overlooked in Clemson's second straight Atlantic Coast Conference championship was a subtle shift in power involving several of the league's traditional have-nots.

Virginia and Wake Forest, which had been picked to bring up the rear in 1987, finished second and in a tie for third, respectively. North Carolina State, which was winless outside the ACC, tied with Wake Forest and was the only league team to defeat Clemson.

The role reversal came at the expense of two of the league's most successful programs, Maryland and North Carolina. Once permanent residents of the first division, they fell to fifth and sixth, respectively.

Carolina lost its last three games to finish 5-6, thus prompting the pressured resignation of 10-year coach Dick Crum. He was succeeded by Mack Brown of Tulane.

Maryland had made a change one year earlier, when coach Bobby Ross resigned and went to Georgia Tech. He was replaced by assistant Joe Krivak, who was 4-7 in his first season.

Ross was even less successful at Georgia Tech, where the Yellow Jackets failed to beat a Division I-A opponent. They went from second to last in the ACC in two years, finishing 2-9 in '87.

Duke finished in a familiar position—seventh—but the Blue Devils weren't exactly a pushover. They lost five games by seven points or fewer, just one more sign of the league's growing parity.

Only Clemson figures to be a national power this fall. The Tigers should run away with the ACC title, so look for Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia Tech and perhaps N.C. State to battle for second.

The ACC was a passing league in '87, with five quarterbacks throwing for 1,800 yards or more. But with only one of them returning (Wake Forest senior Mike Elkins), the ACC could return to more of a running league this year. In a conference that, beginning in 1976, had produced at least two 1,000-yard rushers a year, Terry Allen's total of 868 yards for Clemson was the lowest to lead the league since 1966.

CLEMSON

Coach: Danny Ford (76-25-4, 10 years).
1987 Record: 6-1/1st; 9-2 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: James Earle, DE; Dan Pearman, TE; Michael Dean Perry, DT; John Phillips, OG; Tony Stephens, MG; David Treadwell, K.
Starters Returning: **Offense (9):** Terry Allen, TB, 5-11/195, Soph.; Jeff Bak, C, 6-2/255, Sr.; Ty Granger, T, 6-6/270, Sr.; Eric Harmon, G, 6-1/265, Soph.; Ricardo Hooper, SE, 5-10/171, Sr.; Keith Jennings, FL, 6-4/235, Sr.; Tracy Johnson, FB, 6-0/230, Sr.; Jeff Nunamacher, T, 6-2/300, Sr.; Rodney

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. CLEMSON

Death Valley showdown with Florida State could decide who's No. 1.

2. VIRGINIA

Moore may be Welsh's best quarterback, while Cavs may be his best team.

3. NORTH CAROLINA

Brown juices up the Tar Heels' offense and competitiveness.

4. GEORGIA TECH

Injury bug bit the Yellow Jackets bad in '87. Look for an improved product.

5. NORTH CAROLINA STATE

Under Sheridan, the Wolfpack is worthy competition for any opponent.

6. MARYLAND

The team and coach both remain gigantic question marks.

7. DUKE

The Blue Devils' defense must improve for their record to do the same.

8. WAKE FOREST

The Demon Deacons have talent, but not enough to challenge.

Williams, QB, 6-2/210, Sr. **Defense (8):** Gene Beasley, S, 5-11/210, Sr.; Raymond Chavous, T, 6-5/280, Sr.; Jesse Hatcher, LB, 6-2/210, Sr.; John Johnson, LB, 6-3/210, Soph.; James Lott, CB, 5-9/175, Jr.; Richard Smith, S, 5-11/190, Sr.; Vince Taylor, LB, 5-11/220, Jr.; Donnell Woolford, CB, 5-10/195, Sr.

Key Returnees: Doug Brewster, LB, Soph.; Gene Coley, TE, Sr.; Gary Cooper, SE, Jr.; Frank Delulius, OT, Sr.; Mark Drag, MG, Sr.; Jerome Henderson, CB, Soph.; Joe Henderson, TB, Jr.; Chris Lancaster, FB, Sr.; Dorian Mariable, LB, Jr.; Richard McCullough, DT, Sr.; Wesley McFadden, TB, Jr.; Arlington Nunn, CB, Soph.; Rusty Seyle, P, Sr.; Pat Williams, OG, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Rico Brogna, QB; Michael Carr, QB; Rich Pollitt, TE; Vince Robinson, FB (RS/switched from QB).

Schedule: Virginia Tech, Sept. 3; Furman, Sept. 10; Florida State, Sept. 17; at Georgia Tech, Sept. 24; at Virginia, Oct. 8; Duke, Oct. 15; at North Carolina State, Oct. 22; at Wake Forest, Oct. 29; North Carolina, Nov. 5; at Maryland, Nov. 12; South Carolina, Nov. 19.

Although he'd rather sneak up on people, Clemson Coach Danny Ford is in the not unfamiliar position of entering the 1988 season as a contender for the national championship.

"I'm glad people would mention us like that, but we're a long way from being one," Ford said. "We had a good situation last year with eight home games and didn't get it done (nationally). At least maybe now we know what it takes."

It helps to have a passing attack, as the Tigers learned in the Florida Citrus Bowl, where they routed Penn State, 35-10. Quarterback Rodney Williams, only the sixth-ranked passer in the ACC, completed 15 of 24 passes for 214 yards.

"That's fine as long as you can catch it

and throw it," Ford said, "but you've got to be able to execute. We won't become a passing team."

To the extent the Tigers do pass the ball, Williams has a good pair of wide receivers in Keith Jennings and Gary Cooper, who combined for 54 catches last year. Tight end James Coley is ready to blossom.

The Tigers welcome back plenty of good runners, including tailbacks Terry Allen, who was named to the all-conference team as a freshman last fall, and Wesley McFadden. Bruising blocker Chris Lancaster shares time with Tracy Johnson, one of the nation's best fullbacks. Clemson goes four deep at tailback with Joe Henderson and Charlie James.

"We've had three before and found time for them," Ford said.

All-ACC tackle Jeff Nunamacher bolsters a strong offensive line that returns four starters. Pat Williams, a backup in 1987 who had started the year before, should help ease the loss of All-ACC guard John Phillips.

ACC Player of the Year Michael Dean Perry and two other starters are gone from Clemson's defensive front, but the Tigers rotated half a dozen players in 1987 and have capable replacements in middle guard Mark Drag and tackle Richard McCullough. Senior tackle Raymond Chavous completes the front three, which will be flanked by a good pair of outside linebackers, Jesse Hatcher and John Johnson.

Ford said he is looking for more ferocity out of his linebackers.

"We have not had a great Clemson linebacker in six or seven years," he said.

The Tigers do have a great secondary, led by senior Donnell Woolford, a second-team All-America kick returner as well as an All-ACC cornerback. James Lott is a two-year starter at the other corner, and safeties Gene Beasley and Richard Smith round out a solid unit.

VIRGINIA

Coach: George Welsh (33-33-2, 6 years; 88-79-3 overall, 15 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/2nd; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: John Fetsko, OG; Eric Hairston, DT; Darryl Hammond, S; Keith Mattioli, WR; Chris Minear, OT; Sean Scott, DE; Scott Seales, QB.

Starters Returning: **Offense (7):** Roy Brown, G, 6-6/258, Jr.; Joel Dempsey, TE, 6-3/237, Sr.; John Ford, WR, 6-3/207, Sr. (misses spring/hamstring); Durwin Greggs, FB, 6-0/229, Jr.; Tim Morris, C, 6-3/244, Jr.; Tim O'Connor, T, 6-6/273, Jr.; Marcus Wilson, TB, 6-1/200, Soph. **Defense (8):** Ron Carey, NG, 6-3/257, Soph.; Kevin Cook, S, 6-0/189, Jr.; Tony Covington, CB, 5-11/179, Soph.; David Griggs, LB, 6-4/235, Sr.; Jeff Lageman, LB, 6-6/236, Sr.; Keith McMeans, CB, 5-11/184, Soph.; Ray Savage, E, 6-2/227, Jr.; Elton Tolliver, T, 6-2/257, Jr.

Key Returnees: Fred Carter, P, Sr.; Paul Collins, OT, Soph.; Dennis Fields, CB, Jr. (RS/knee); Tim Finkelston, WR, Jr.; Preston

Hicks, DE, Sr.; Mark Inderlied, K, Sr.; Billy Keys, DT, Jr. (RS); Bruce McGonnigal, TE, Soph.; Shawn Moore, QB, Soph.; Kevin Morgan, FB, Sr.; Trevor Ryals, OG, Soph. (switched from C); Chris Stearns, DT, Soph.; Phil Thomas, LB, Jr.; Chris Warren, TB, Jr. (RS/academics).

Top Newcomers: Matt Blundin, QB; Nikki Fisher, RB; Kenneth Miles, DL.

Schedule: William & Mary, Sept. 3; Penn State, Sept. 10; Georgia Tech, Sept. 17; at Duke, Sept. 24; Clemson, Oct. 8; at Louisville, Oct. 15; at Wake Forest, Oct. 22; at Virginia Tech, Oct. 29; N.C. State, Nov. 5; at North Carolina, Nov. 12; Maryland, Nov. 19.

After winning its last four regular-season games and then beating Brigham Young in the All-American Bowl, Virginia enters this season amid unusually high expectations.

"I ain't saying nothin' this year, if you'll pardon my English," Coach George Welsh said. "You swallow that stuff and it'll kill you."

Memories are still vivid of 1985, when the Cavaliers, coming off an 8-2-2 season and a first-ever bowl bid, slumped to 6-5.

"This is what a lot of us have worked for," said Welsh, who has taken Virginia to four winning seasons in the last five years. "We need a little luck. We're not a dominant team."

Welsh needs to replace three All-ACC selections, including quarterback Scott Secules. Redshirt sophomore Shawn Moore, who is dangerous on the option, shared time with Secules early in the season and is seen as the likely starter.

The offense received a lift when wide receiver John Ford announced he would return for his fifth year. Ford, who caught 48 passes for 855 yards in 1987, had hinted he might turn pro.

Converted defensive back Marcus Wilson led the team in rushing with 692 yards and the Cavaliers have some depth at the tailback spot with Chris Warren, who missed the 1987 season for academic reasons, and Kevin Morgan, who may see time at fullback.

With eight starters returning, the defense is solid if not spectacular. The key loss is All-ACC end Sean Scott. Senior Preston Hicks could fill his spot. Junior Ray Savage returns at the other end spot.

Seniors Jeff Lageman and David Griggs work well together at linebacker. The backfield features cornerback Keith McMeans, who led Division I-A with nine interceptions as a freshman a year ago. Junior free safety Kevin Cook had eight interceptions, and sophomore cornerback Tony Covington is in the same class.

NORTH CAROLINA

Coach: Mack Brown (first year at North Carolina; 17-28 overall, 4 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/6th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Carlton Bailey, NG; Norris Davis, S; Reuben Davis, DT; Derrick Donald, CB; Howard Feggins, CB; Tim Goad, DT; Eric Lewis, FL; Mark Maye, QB; Kenny Miller, K; Daryl Parham, TE; Brett Rudolph, LB; Quinton Smith, SE.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Pat Crowley, G, 6-3/280, Jr.; Torin Dorn, TB, 6-1/193, Jr.; Jeff Garnica, C, 6-4/265, Sr.; Darrell Hamilton, T, 6-6/265, Sr.; Creighton Incorminas, T, 6-4/293, Sr.; Steve Steinbacher, G, 6-4/277, Sr.; James Thompson, FB, 5-11/234, Sr. **Defense (4):** Antonio Goss, LB, 6-4/220, Sr.; John Reed, LB, 6-3/225, Jr.; Dan Vooletich, S, 6-0/187, Jr.; Mitch Wike, LB, 6-2/232, Sr.

Key Returnees: Skeet Baldwin, S, Jr.; Tim Brooks, OT, Sr. (RS); Victor Bullock, CB, Jr.; Reggie Clark, WR, Soph.; Cecil Gray, DT, Jr.; Jonathan Hall, QB, Jr. (RS/shoulder); Chris Jacobs, NG, Sr. (RS); John Keller, TE, Sr.; Randy Marriott, WR, Sr.; Kennard Martin, TB, Soph.; Bernard Timmons, LB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Roy Barker, DT (RS); Dwight Hollier, LB (RS); Deems May, QB (RS).

Schedule: At South Carolina, Sept. 3; Oklahoma, Sept. 10; Louisville, Sept. 24; at Auburn, Oct. 1; at Wake Forest, Oct. 8; North Carolina State, Oct. 15; Georgia Tech, Oct. 22; Maryland, Oct. 29; at Clemson, Nov. 5; Virginia, Nov. 12; at Duke, Nov. 19.

It may take a while before North Carolina Coach Mack Brown can work the miracles some Tar Heel fans expect after Dick Crum's resignation.

"We don't have the overall speed of the last two teams I've been around," said Brown, who was offensive coordinator at Oklahoma before taking over the program at Tulane. "Right now, we're looking at a very, very tough year. The biggest thing we're fighting is a very tough out-of-conference schedule early."

The Tar Heels open with South Carolina, Oklahoma, Louisville and Auburn, with the first and last of those games on the road. Still, the energetic Brown has brought a new enthusiasm to Carolina football that had dimmed in the last years of the Crum era.

Brown's teams at Tulane were known for their high-powered passing game, "but we didn't have the number of tailbacks or quality that Torin Dorn's got," he said.

Dorn, a junior, could be the best tailback in the league—if he's healthy. He injured his ankle early last season and finished with only 88 carries for 479 yards. Sophomore Kennard Martin provides depth, while fullback James Thompson can both open holes and plow through them.

Brown is not yet dealing from similar strength at quarterback. Record setter Mark Maye is gone, and Jonathan Hall, who saw extensive action in 1985 and '86 but missed the '87 season with a shoulder injury, did not participate in drills.

"It's really scary," Brown said. "Deems May (a redshirt freshman) would be the guy on campus right now who would start. Against South Carolina, with their all-out blitz, we will not have a quarterback who has played in two years."

Brown moved erstwhile tailback Reggie Clark to receiver and also was impressed with wide receiver Randy Marriott in the spring. All-ACC guard Pat Crowley was hurt in the spring but heads a top-flight line that also includes center Jeff Garnica.

The Tar Heels received a good piece of news when tackle Cecil Gray, the only returning defensive lineman with experience, decided to stay in school. Gray had

Who'll Fill Secules' Shoes?

Nobody who saw Shawn Moore direct a fourth-quarter drive in Virginia's second game of the 1987 season is questioning his worthiness for the starting quarterback job.

In fact, some were ready to turn to Moore on the spot.

After throwing a 35-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter against Maryland, Moore took the Cavaliers on a 57-yard march that culminated in his own five-yard TD run late in the game. But a two-point try failed and Maryland won, 21-19. Moore completed eight of nine passes for 99 yards.

Senior Scott Secules' hold on the starting job looked tenuous at that point, but he went on to pass for 2,311 yards, break more than a dozen passing records and become Virginia's first All-Atlantic Coast Conference quarterback since 1966. Moore, on the other hand, did not complete another pass.

"I accepted it because I realized (Secules) was having a really good year," Moore said. "... The attitude I had was, 'Be prepared.' I think I could have



Shawn Moore

gone in without much problem."

Also making it easier for Moore, now a redshirt sophomore, to accept the reduced playing time was the knowledge that he could be the starter for the next three years.

"He's no more of a question mark than Secules was a year ago," Coach George Welsh said. "He's done it all in practice. He just hasn't been the starter."

Moore has an arm "as strong as anybody we've had," Welsh said, and the size (6-foot-2, 210 pounds), quickness and elusiveness

to give teams fits on the option.

"If Moore is really good on the option, I could see us running it maybe five more times a game," Welsh said. "We've always had an option. It's just a matter of how much we've emphasized it."

Another player to watch is 6-6 Matt Blundin, a highly recruited quarterback who came to Virginia on a basketball scholarship but worked out with the football team in the spring.

—DOUG DOUGHTY



announced plans to transfer to UCLA.

Linebacker Dwight Hollier, who was held out as a freshman in 1987, was one of the surprises of the spring. Brown also spoke highly of outside linebackers John Reed and Antonio Goss.

"Goss runs well and plays hard every down," Brown said. "He has a chance to be a dominant player, the same with Garnica on offense."

GEORGIA TECH

Coach: Bobby Ross (2-9, 1 year; 65-59-1 overall, 11 years).

1987 Record: 0-6/8th; 2-9 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Riccardo Ingram, S; Paul Jurgensen, LB; Malcolm King, FB; Ivery Lee, NG; Sammy Lilly, CB; Robert Massey, TE; Rick Strom, QB; Dean Weaver, OG.

Starters Returning: **Offense (7):** Eric Bear-den, C, 6-2/254, Sr.; Steve Davenport, SE, 5-11/193, Sr.; Richard Hills, FB, 5-10/190, Sr.; Darryl Jenkins, T, 6-5/283, Soph. (injured ankle in spring); Greg Lester, FL, 5-10/167, Soph.; Jessie Marion, T, 6-4/276, Jr.; Joe Siffri, G, 6-5/280, Soph. **Defense (7):** Willie Burks, NG, 6-2/270, Jr. (switched from T); Willis Crockett, LB, 6-3/221, Sr.; Jay Martin, S, 6-1/199, Jr.; John Porter, LB, 6-0/245, Jr.; Sean Smith, T, 6-8/263, Jr.; Cedric Stallworth, CB, 6-0/180, Sr.; Eric Thomas, LB, 6-1/227, Jr.

Key Returnees: Scotty Barron, SE, Jr. (RS); Keith Holmes, CB, Soph. (switched from S); Jeff Maloof, DT, Soph. (injured knee in spring); George Malone, LB, Sr.; Jerry Mays, RB, Jr. (RS/knee); Stefan Scotton, FB, Soph.; Andre Thomas, S, Sr.; Alonzo Watson, TE, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Willie Clay, DB; Tom Covington, SE/TE (RS); T.J. Edwards, RB (transfer/Duke); Jim Gallagher, TE (RS); Jim Lavin, OG/OT (transfer/Army); Emmett Merchant, WR; Antoine Moore, RB; Bobby Rodriguez, WR; Ken Swilling, DB/WR; Lee Williamson, QB (RS).

Schedule: UT-Chattanooga, Sept. 10; at Virginia, Sept. 17; Clemson, Sept. 24; North Carolina State, Oct. 1; at Maryland, Oct. 8; South Carolina, Oct. 15; at North Carolina, Oct. 22; Duke, Oct. 29; VMI, Nov. 5; at Wake Forest, Nov. 12; at Georgia, Nov. 26.

There was no bigger surprise in the ACC in 1987 than Georgia Tech, which beat only The Citadel and Indiana State in Coach Bobby Ross' first year.

"It wasn't a shock," said Ross, who had gone 39-19-1 with three ACC championships in five years at Maryland. "I think I've identified why things happened.

"We lost seven players to academics. We had six knee operations, five to starters. Every skill player in our preseason starting offense was hurt, and that's not counting the part-timers."

One of the 1987 casualties was Jerry Mays, the ACC Rookie of the Year in 1985 and Georgia Tech's leading rusher in 1986 with 842 yards. Mays injured his knee on the last play of the last spring scrimmage and didn't play a down in '87. He was held out of contact work this past spring but is back to help fortify a tailback situation that also includes T.J. Edwards, a transfer from Duke, and 1987 starter Richard Hills.

"One thing that's a concern is who's going to be our quarterback," Ross said.

It had appeared that senior Todd Rampley would be that person, but redshirt freshman Lee Williamson moved into the No. 1 spot during spring drills.



Jerry Mays, who didn't play a down last year because of a knee injury, is back to help fortify Georgia Tech's tailback situation.

"He made some plays and I thought he did some good things," Ross said. "He's still a little deep on his drops at times and he had a couple of problems with the center exchange, but that also happened with all of our quarterbacks."

The new quarterback will be throwing to a receiver group that includes sophomore Greg Lester, who led the Yellow Jackets with 33 receptions in 1987.

The offensive line returns 80 percent intact from 1987. Tackles Darryl Jenkins and Jessie Marion looked especially good in the spring.

The defense was nothing special in '87, but an able-bodied Eric Thomas could make a big difference at linebacker, where John Porter and Willis Crockett also return. All the down linemen are back except noseguard Ivery Lee.

"Our main concern (defensively) is the secondary, whereas last year it might have been the least of our concerns," Ross said. "But Riccardo Ingram missed our games (the last two after signing with an agent), so we were able to look at some other people."

NORTH CAROLINA STATE

Coach: Dick Sheridan (12-10-1, 2 years; 81-33-3 overall, 10 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T3rd; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Bobby Crumpler, TB; Izel Jenkins, CB; Chris Johnson, S; Mack Jones, FL; Joey Page, T; Craig Salmon, P; Lenny Schultz, G; Mark Smith, LB; Jeff Strum, OG; Kent Winstead, NG.

Starters Returning: **Offense (6):** Mal Crite, FB, 6-0/224, Sr.; Lance Hammond, G, 6-3/269, Jr. (switched from T); Bobby Harrell,

TE, 6-4/235, Sr.; Chuck Massaro, C, 6-3/253, Sr.; Danny Peebles, SE, 5-11/179, Sr.; Preston Poag, QB, 6-2/195, Soph. **Defense (7):** John Adleta, NG, 6-4/266, Sr. (switched from T); Ray Agnew, T, 6-4/270, Jr.; Scott Auer, LB, 6-3/227, Sr.; Michael Brooks, S, 5-11/188, Sr.; Ray Frost, LB, 6-2/220, Soph.; Clayton Henry, LB, 6-2/210, Soph.; Joe Johnson, CB, 5-10/171, Soph.

Key Returnees: Barry Anderson, CB, Jr.; Chris Corders, SE, Soph.; Charles Davenport, QB, Soph. (switched from WR); Derick Debnam, DT, Jr.; Kent Jordan, C, Jr.; Brock Miller, OT, Sr.; Shane Montgomery, QB, Jr.; Rich Pokrant, OG, Soph.; Troy Russell, TE, Jr.; Fred Stone, LB, Sr. (missed five games/knee); Grant Slavin, LB, Jr.; Todd Varn, TB, Jr.; Fernandus Vinson, DB, Soph.; Chris Williams, TB, Soph.; Naz Worthen, FL, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Scott Adell, OT (RS); Neal Auer, LB; Anthony Barbour, TB; Jesse Campbell, S (RS); Dave Geros, LB; Richard Glover, DB; Clyde Hawley, OG (RS); Terry Jordan, QB; Mark King, LB (RS); Tyrone Jackson, TB (RS); Chris Wrenn, OL.

Schedule: Western Carolina, Sept. 3; Wake Forest, Sept. 17; at Maryland, Sept. 24; at Georgia Tech, Oct. 1; East Tennessee State, Oct. 8; at North Carolina, Oct. 15; Clemson, Oct. 22; South Carolina, Oct. 29; at Virginia, Nov. 5; Duke, Nov. 12; Pittsburgh, Nov. 19.

Despite losing its first three games and later dropping a contest to East Tennessee State, North Carolina State could have finished second in the ACC by beating Virginia in its last game.

The Wolfpack failed to score a touchdown in three games but put 30 or more points on the board in four others. That inconsistency may have been caused to some degree by an unsettled quarterback situation. Shane Montgomery opened the season as the starter, lost the job to Pres-

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	JOHN FORD, Virginia	6-03	207	Senior
WR	CLARKSTON HINES, Duke	6-01	170	Junior
TE	JAMES COLEY, Clemson	6-05	245	Senior
T	JEFF NUNAMACHER, Clemson	6-02	300	Senior
T	CHRIS PORT, Duke	6-07	269	Junior
C	JEFF GARNICA, North Carolina	6-04	265	Senior
G	PAT CROWLEY, North Carolina	6-03	280	Junior
G	JOE KENN, Wake Forest	6-03	287	Senior
QB	MIKE ELKINS, Wake Forest	6-03	215	Senior
RB	TORIN DORN, North Carolina	6-01	193	Junior
RB	TRACY JOHNSON, Clemson	6-00	230	Senior
RB	*CHRIS WARREN, Virginia	6-02	217	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	RAY AGNEW, North Carolina State	6-04	270	Junior
DL	WILLIE BURKS, Georgia Tech	6-02	270	Junior
DL	DAVID BRAXTON, Wake Forest	6-02	229	Senior
DL	RAYMOND CHAVOUS, Clemson	6-05	280	Senior
DL	CECIL GRAY, North Carolina	6-05	293	Junior
LB	ANTONIO GOSS, North Carolina	6-04	220	Senior
LB	DAVID GRIGGS, Virginia	6-04	235	Senior
LB	JESSE HATCHER, Clemson	6-02	210	Senior
LB	ERIC THOMAS, Georgia Tech	6-01	227	Junior
DB	A.J. GREENE, Wake Forest	5-10	165	Senior
DB	JAMES LOTT, Clemson	5-09	175	Junior
DB	ERNE PURNSLEY, Wake Forest	5-11	191	Senior
DB	DONNELL WOOLFORD, Clemson	5-10	195	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	WILSON HOYLE, Wake Forest	5-10	167	Junior
P	ANTHONY DILWEG, Duke	6-04	215	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	KEITH JENNINGS, Clemson	6-04	235	Senior
WR	*RANDY MARRIOTT, North Carolina	6-00	165	Senior
WR	NAZ WORTHEN, North Carolina State	5-09	168	Senior
TE	DAVE COLONNA, Duke	6-05	241	Junior
T	DARRYL JENKINS, Georgia Tech	6-05	283	Soph.
T	DARRELL HAMILTON, North Carolina	6-06	265	Senior
C	CHUCK MASSARO, North Carolina State	6-03	253	Senior
G	ROY BROWN, Virginia	6-06	258	Junior
G	JOHN RUGG, Maryland	6-02	265	Senior
QB	SHAWN MOORE, Virginia	6-02	210	Soph.
RB	JAMES THOMPSON, North Carolina	5-11	234	Senior
RB	MARK YOUNG, Wake Forest	6-00	210	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	JOHN ADLETA, North Carolina State	6-04	266	Senior
DL	BRIAN BERNARD, Duke	6-06	280	Senior
DL	RICHARD McCULLOUGH, Clemson	6-05	265	Senior
DL	WARREN POWERS, Maryland	6-06	277	Senior
DL	RAY SAVAGE, Virginia	6-02	227	Junior
LB	SCOTT AUER, North Carolina State	6-03	227	Senior
LB	WILLIS CROCKETT, Georgia Tech	6-03	221	Senior
LB	DORIAN MARIABLE, Clemson	6-03	240	Junior
LB	BERNARD TIMMONS, North Carolina	6-02	223	Soph.
DB	GENE BEASLEY, Clemson	5-11	210	Senior
DB	J.B. BROWN, Maryland	6-00	189	Senior
DB	KEVIN COOK, Virginia	6-00	189	Junior
DB	MIKE DIMINICK, Duke	5-10	180	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	MARK INDERLIED, Virginia	5-11	179	Senior
P	RUSTY SEYLE, Clemson	6-01	182	Senior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Crowley



Elkins



Dorn



Johnson



Griggs



Hatcher



Thomas



Greene

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Allen, Clemson	172	868	7
Young, Wake Forest	179	795	4
McFadden, Clemson	125	743	6
Wilson, Virginia	172	692	7
Crumpler, N.C. St.	143	571	7
Lowery, Maryland	168	656	5
Boone, Duke	137	550	4
Starr, North Carolina	142	550	3
Johnson, Clemson	101	469	6
King, Georgia Tech	89	383	5

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Secules, Virginia	296	174	132.3
Slayden, Duke	395	230	129.0
Maye, North Carolina	270	143	114.0
Henning, Maryland	287	157	110.4
Dilweg, Duke	73	35	108.9
Williams, Clemson	185	86	104.1
Elkins, Wake Forest	317	169	99.4

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Boone, Duke	62	587	0
Hines, Duke	57	1093	11
Proehl, Wake Forest	54	788	6
Ford, Virginia	48	855	6
Lowery, Maryland	44	252	2
Abdur-Ra'oof, Maryland	39	617	3
Marriott, North Carolina	36	634	4
Edmunds, Maryland	35	603	2
Green, Duke	31	410	2
Lester, Georgia Tech	33	593	4

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Marriott, No. Carolina	65	1253	113.9
Boone, Duke	204	1223	111.2
Young, Wake Forest	201	1053	105.3
Allen, Clemson	185	1021	102.1
Proehl, Wake Forest	76	1094	99.5
Hines, Duke	59	1087	98.8
Hills, Georgia Tech	139	1073	97.6
Wilson, Virginia	201	1038	94.4
Ford, Virginia	54	913	91.3
McFadden, Clemson	133	873	87.3
Williams, N.C. St.	68	835	83.5

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Salmon, North Carolina St.	64	2877	44.9
Bailey, Wake Forest	55	2263	41.2
Miller, North Carolina	31	1278	41.2
Wright, Maryland	63	2555	40.6
McDevitt, Georgia Tech	64	2527	39.5

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Woolford, Clemson	21	326	15.5
Lott, Clemson	22	257	11.7
Greene, Wake Forest	21	190	9.1
Finkelston, Virginia	25	182	7.3
Jones, North Carolina St.	32	180	5.6

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Treadwell, Clemson	21	18	1.80
Hoyle, Wake Forest	20	16	1.45
Peterson, Duke	22	15	1.36
Inderlied, Virginia	19	13	1.18
Miller, North Carolina	21	13	1.18

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Marriott, North Carolina	27	607	22.5
Beasley, Maryland	14	296	21.1
Williams, N.C. St.	33	695	21.1
Hills, Georgia Tech	31	616	19.9
Jones, Duke	20	395	19.8

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
McMeans, Virginia	9	35	.90
Cook, Virginia	8	14	.73
Greene, Wake Forest	7	128	.64
Terry, Duke	5	19	.45
Brooks, N.C. St.	5	8	.45

ton Poag and then regained it when Poag was injured. With the starting job still up for grabs, sophomore Charles Davenport, a quarterback who played wide receiver as a freshman and now has switched back, threw his helmet into the ring with a good performance in the spring game.

"It's not the kind of situation you'd prefer," Coach Dick Sheridan said, "but it's better than having just one. We went into the season (1987) without a quarterback who'd ever been in a game."

Whoever plays quarterback will have the benefit of throwing to flanker Naz Worthen, who was suspended by Sheridan for the 1987 season after a campus disturbance. Worthen caught 41 passes for 686 yards in 1986.

"I think all of us, when we lose something of value, have a greater appreciation for it," Sheridan said. "He received a very severe punishment and took his medicine. He didn't bellyache."

World-class sprinter Danny Peebles returns at the other receiver spot after catching 22 passes in 1987, but Sheridan has always preferred a balanced offense.

Fullback Mal Crite is the top returning rusher, and the tailback will come from Todd Varn, Chris Williams, Tyrone Jackson and prize recruit Anthony Barbour.

All-ACC center Chuck Massaro returns for his senior year, but the offensive line is the least experienced area of the team. Lance Hammond was a starter in 1987 at tackle but has moved to guard.

The Wolfpack ranked last in the league in scoring defense last year, including an average yield of 39 points in the last four games. Sheridan said he thinks he has more talent this year, but he worries about depth and a lack of experience.

Back are seniors Fred Stone, whose broken ankle allowed Ray Frost and Clayton Henry time to develop, and Scott Auer from a strong linebacking corps. Free safety Michael Brooks stands out in the secondary, and tackle Ray Agnew, the ACC Rookie of the Year in 1986, approached his freshman form in the spring.

MARYLAND

Coach: Joe Krivak (4-7, 1 year).

1987 Record: 3-3/5th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Ziz Abdur-Ra'ooof, WR; O'Brien Alston, LB; David Amend, OG; Bob Arnold, OG; Ferrell Edmunds, TE; Dan Henning, QB; Bill Hughes, C; Clarence Jones, OT; Robert Klein, DG; James Milling, WR; Richie Pettibon, LB; Sean Scott, LB; Kevin Walker, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Mark Agent, C, 6-5/245, Jr. (switched from T); Bren Lowery, RB, 5-10/182, Jr.; John Rugg, G, 6-2/265, Sr.; Dennis Spinelli, FB, 6-1/237, Jr. **Defense (5):** J.B. Brown, CB, 6-0/189, Sr.; Mike Hollis, S, 6-1/171, Soph.; Warren Powers, T, 6-6/277, Sr.; Irvin Smith, CB, 5-10/180, Sr.; Chad Sydnor, S, 5-9/183, Sr.

Key Returnees: Mike Anderson, RB, Sr.; Dean Green, WR, Jr. (switched from CB); Ben Jefferson, OT, Sr.; Barry Johnson, WR, Soph.; Vernon Joines, WR, Sr.; Mike Kiselak, OG, Jr. (switched from DG); Neil O'Donnell, QB, Jr.; Dan Plocki, K, Sr.; Blaine Rose, OT, Jr. (switched from TE); Scott Saylor, LB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Ricky Johnson, RB (JC); James Matthews, RB (JC).



Whoever plays quarterback for North Carolina State will have the benefit of throwing to flanker Naz Worthen, who returns after a one-year suspension.

Schedule: Louisville, Sept. 3; at West Virginia, Sept. 17; North Carolina State, Sept. 24; at Syracuse, Oct. 1; Georgia Tech, Oct. 8; Wake Forest, Oct. 15; at Duke, Oct. 22; at North Carolina, Oct. 29; at Penn State, Nov. 5; Clemson, Nov. 12; at Virginia, Nov. 19.

Joe Krivak's first year as head coach at Maryland didn't go nearly as well as hoped, but the Terrapins' drop to 4-7 wasn't totally unexpected.

"We'd had a lot of kids leave the program for whatever reason," Krivak said. "We had to get our numbers back."

This year's roster includes only 12 scholarship seniors and 55 sophomores, redshirt freshmen and freshmen, which isn't necessarily bad, Krivak said.

"Youth and enthusiasm can sometimes go a long way," he said. "When you look at the Final Four in basketball, how many of those teams were picked high to start the season?"

The quarterbacks received most of the attention during the spring as the Terrapins attempted to find a successor to Dan Henning, who passed for 1,835 yards in 1987. Junior Neil O'Donnell, who replaced Henning as starter at one point last fall, was battling with sophomore Scott Zolak.

"I don't think anybody can go (into fall) as Number 1," Krivak said. "Both are good enough that we can play with them."

The Terrapins lost most of their receiving corps, including Ziz Abdur-Ra'ooof and All-ACC tight end Ferrell Edmunds, leaving Vernon Joines as the top pass-catching threat. Running back Bren Lowery actually led the team in receptions with 44.

Maryland was last in the ACC in rushing offense, but Krivak expects Lowery and fullback Dennis Spinelli to be better.

Massive offensive tackle Ben Jefferson (6-foot-8, 322 pounds) was a part-time starter on the offensive line and returns with center Mark Agent and guard John Rugg.

Tackle Warren Powers is one of the top returnees on a defensive unit that needs to replace all four linebackers. Cornerback J.B. Brown and safety Chad Sydnor are among four returning starters in the secondary, obviously the strongest point in the defense.

DUKE

Coach: Steve Spurrier (5-6, 1 year).

1987 Record: 2-5/7th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Andy Andreasik, LB; Dave Demore, DE; Jim Godfrey, LB; Doug Green, SE; Stanley Monk, FB; Steve Ryan, OG; Steve Slayden, QB; Dewayne Terry, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Roger Boone, TB, 5-8/165, Jr.; Dave Colonna, TE, 6-5/241, Jr.; Clarkston Hines, FL, 6-1/170, Jr.; Ted McNairy, G, 6-5/265, Sr.; Carey Metts, C, 6-1/255, Jr.; Chris Port, T, 6-7/269, Jr.; Brett Tulacro, T, 6-4/289, Jr. **Defense (7):** Anthony Allen, T, 6-5/252, Jr.; Brian Bernard, T, 6-6/280, Sr.; Rodney Dickerson, CB, 5-10/161, Sr.; Mike Diminick, S, 5-10/180, Sr.; George Edwards, LB, 5-11/215, Sr.; Jeff Patten, E, 6-6/231, Sr.; Randy Sally, LB, 5-11/198, Jr.

Key Returnees: Darryl Clements, CB, (switched from WR); Anthony Dilweg, QB/P, Sr.; Greg Downs, WR, Sr.; John Howell, LB, Jr.; Randy Jones, RB, Soph.; Doug Peterson, K, Jr.; Geoff Purdy, FB, Jr. (switched from DE); Fonda Williams, CB, Sr.

Top Newcomer: Randy Cuthbert, RB.

Schedule: At Northwestern, Sept. 3; at Tennessee, Sept. 10; The Citadel, Sept. 17; Virginia, Sept. 24; at Vanderbilt, Oct. 1; at Clemson, Oct. 15; Maryland, Oct. 22; at Georgia Tech, Oct. 29; Wake Forest, Nov. 5; at North Carolina State, Nov. 12; North Carolina, Nov. 19.

Coach Steve Spurrier entered his first year at Duke with a goal of a winning season—the first in five years—and it's still hard to see how the Blue Devils missed. After a 3-0 start, Duke finished at 5-6.

"I did not promise anything," Spurrier said. "I said from the start that it would be a disappointing year if we didn't win six, and I still feel that way (about 1988). We were in a position to win eight."

A victim of the Blue Devils' inability to hold leads was defensive coordinator Richard Bell, who was replaced by Rick Johnson from Texas Christian. Johnson spent most of the spring installing a 4-3 defense to replace the eight-man front. Duke ranked second in the ACC in rushing defense in 1987 and last in pass defense, the reverse of its normal pattern.

"When we got leads, we couldn't stop people," Spurrier said. "We had virtually no pass rush and our coverage wasn't very good. This is a more penetrating, aggressive defense."

Duke will miss linebacker Jim Godfrey and top defensive lineman Dave Demore, but John (Hollywood) Howell had a good spring at inside linebacker and Randy

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coach: Steve Spurrier, Duke.

The Blue Devils continue to improve under Spurrier.

Best coaches: Dick Sheridan, North Carolina State; George Welsh, Virginia.

Sheridan is among the finest recent additions to the ACC. When Welsh arrived at Virginia, the Cavaliers had but North-western to look down upon. His revival of the Cavs was phenomenal, putting him in an elite class of coaches.

Best programs: Clemson, North Carolina, Virginia.

The Tigers' program ranks among the top five in the country. Ford has enough talent in reserve to rank as a national title contender well into the '90s. With the departure of Dick Crum and the arrival of Mack Brown, the Tar Heels again will challenge Clemson. Virginia's football program now rivals its hoopsters.

Programs on the rise: Duke, Georgia Tech, North Carolina State.

Most underrated players: Roger Boone, TB, Duke; David Braxton, DE, Wake Forest; Chris Corders, SE, North Carolina State; Mal Crite, FB, North Carolina State; Willis Crockett, LB, Georgia Tech; Darrell Hamilton, OT,



Underrated: Maryland running back Bren Lowery

North Carolina; Richard Hills, RB, Georgia Tech; Clarkston Hines, FL, Duke; Vernon Joines, WR, Maryland; Chris Lancaster, FB, Clemson; Bren Lowery, RB, Maryland; Carey Metts, C, Duke; Shawn Moore, QB, Virginia; Tony Mosley, CB, Wake Forest; Danny Peebles, SE, North Carolina State; Ricky Proehl, WB, Wake Forest; Eric Thomas, LB, Georgia Tech; James Thompson, FB, North Carolina.

Most overrated players: Pat Williams, OG, Clemson; Rodney Williams, QB, Clemson.

Stars on the horizon: Jesse Campbell, S, North Carolina State; Michael Carr, QB, Clemson; T.J. Edwards, RB, Georgia Tech; Ray Frost, LB, North Carolina State; Cecil Gray, DT, North Carolina; Eric Harmon, OG, Clemson; Clayton Henry, LB, North Carolina State; Dwight Hollier, LB, North Carolina; John Howell, LB, Duke; Darryl Jenkins, OT, Georgia Tech; John Johnson, LB, Clemson; Randy Jones, RB, Duke; Deems May, QB, North Carolina; Bruce McGonnigal, TE, Virginia; Ken Swilling, DB, Georgia Tech; Bernard Timmons, LB, North Carolina; Chris Williams, TB, North Carolina State.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Clemson, Virginia, Georgia Tech; receivers—Clemson, Virginia, North Carolina State; offensive linemen—North Carolina, Clemson, Georgia Tech; defensive linemen—Clemson, Virginia, Wake Forest; linebackers—Clemson, North Carolina State, Georgia Tech; defensive backfield—Clemson, Wake Forest, Virginia.

Conference snake pit: Clemson.

Many would rather tangle in the desert with Hell's Angels than travel to Death Valley.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Sally is proven on the outside. Safety Mike Diminick is a good one.

Offensively, senior Anthony Dilweg will succeed quarterback Steve Slayden, who led the league in total offense. Dilweg started one game in 1987, when he passed for 305 yards in a 17-10 loss to Clemson. He also will handle punting duties "and actually seems to punt better when he's also the quarterback," Spurrier said.

The Blue Devils have a talented receiving corps that includes All-ACC flanker Clarkston Hines, who caught 57 passes for 1,093 yards, and Roger Boone. Boone had 62 receptions from his tailback spot, but Spurrier would like to cultivate a running attack that would help to preserve late-game leads. He has the horses in tackles Chris Port and Brett Tulacro.

"Roger, at 165 pounds, isn't going to knock anybody backward," Spurrier said.

WAKE FOREST

Coach: Bill Dooley (7-4-0, 1 year; 139-95-3 overall, 21 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T3rd; 7-4 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: James Phillips, TE; Chip Rives, FB; Jimmie Simmons, LB; Dexter Victor, S; David Whitley, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Steve Brown, SE, 6-1/182, Soph.; Jay Deaver, G, 6-4/246, Sr.; Mike Elkins, QB, 6-3/215, Sr.; Rod Ferguson, T, 6-6/260, Jr.; Steve Fleming, T, 6-6/283, Sr.; Joe Kenn, G, 6-3/287, Sr.; Tony Mayberry, C, 6-4/265, Jr.; Ricky

Proehl, WB, 6-0/185, Jr.; Mark Young, TB, 6-0/210, Jr. **Defense (8):** David Braxton, E, 6-2/229, Sr.; A.J. Greene, CB, 5-10/165, Sr.; Mike Hooten, E, 6-4/236, Sr.; Marvin Mitchell, T, 6-5/285, Soph.; Tony Mosley, CB, 5-10/170, Sr.; Ernie Purnsley, S, 5-11/191, Sr. (missed five games/knee); Terry Smith, NG, 6-2/255, Jr.; Kelly Vaughan, DT, 6-4/251, Sr.

Key Returnees: Louis Altobelli, T, Jr. (missed spring/knee); Warren Belin, LB, Soph.; Brad Benson, S, Soph.; Dwayne Brown, S, Soph. (RS); Rodney Hogue, LB, Jr.; Wilson Hoyle, K, Jr.; Jerome Rice, LB, Jr. **Top Newcomers:** Marvin Dickerson, FB (RS).

Schedule: At Villanova, Sept. 3; Illinois State, Sept. 10; at North Carolina State, Sept. 17; at Michigan, Sept. 24; North Carolina, Oct. 8; at Maryland, Oct. 15; Virginia, Oct. 22; Clemson, Oct. 29; at Duke, Nov. 5; Georgia Tech, Nov. 12; Appalachian State, Nov. 19.

Coach Bill Dooley skipped the rebuilding stage at Wake Forest, where the Demon Deacons went 7-4 while capturing the mythical Big Four championship with a 3-0 sweep of North Carolina, N.C. State and Duke. They could be tough again with the return of 17 of 22 starters, but depth is a problem.

"I have never been as thin, numbers-wise, since my first year (1967) as head coach at North Carolina," Dooley said. "We could be out of business in a hurry with an injury or two."

Wake Forest has some talented front-line people, including senior quarterback Mike Elkins, who passed for 1,915 yards last season. But his interceptions rose

from 15 to 19 in 1987 while his touchdown passes dropped from 17 to seven.

"People ask if I've ever had a quarterback throw for as many yards," Dooley said, "and I say, 'Never had as many interceptions either.'"

"I think he's darn good. He has a strong arm, he's a good leader and he's smart. We asked him to throw from a lot of different spots."

Dooley would like to see a more diversified passing attack. Wingback Ricky Proehl caught 54 passes for 788 yards, but no other Deacon had more than 19 receptions.

The Deacons welcome back an All-ACC tailback in Mark Young, who stepped in for an injured Darryl McGill and rushed for 795 yards in 10 games. "Young bailed us out," Dooley said.

Defensively, the Deacons need to replace linebacker Jimmie Simmons, the team leader with 140 tackles, but the secondary is outstanding with the likes of All-ACC cornerback A.J. Greene and safety Ernie Purnsley.

The Deacons had lost four of five games last year before routing Georgia Tech in the season finale to end the season on a positive note.

"We had a good start (5-0), and all of a sudden we slipped," Dooley said. "But it was beyond my wildest expectations that we'd win seven games. We have an opportunity to be better, but you can never tell how things will come together." ■

'88 may be the year not to color Orange Bowl red

By TOM SHATEL
Kansas City Star and Times

The state of affairs in college football's heartland can be summed up in one word. Actually, one punctuation mark.

From bottom to top, the Big Eight Conference is full of question marks entering the 1988 season, beginning with the age-old question that may not be so stupid this year.

Is this the year a team that doesn't wear red goes to the Orange Bowl?

Well, maybe. John F. Kennedy was President the last time either Oklahoma or Nebraska failed to win at least a piece of the league title, and Jimmy Carter was just getting set to move into the White House the last time another Big Eight team went to Miami. But with neither the Sooners nor the Cornhuskers returning more than 10 starters, their ability to reload will be severely tested. Colorado and Oklahoma State are poised offensively, but if defense wins championships, order up the color red for the Biscayne Boulevard parade again this year.

Will Jamelle Holieway play?

Holieway, who underwent knee surgery to repair ligament damage suffered last November, is a big maybe for the Sooners. His surgery went well, but given the moves a wishbone quarterback must make, Oklahoma coaches were contemplating redshirting him. Stay tuned.

How will the pending NCAA investigations into Oklahoma and Oklahoma State football affect the race?

Entering the summer it was not known what penalties, if any, the NCAA had in store. Regardless, the Cowboys will go to one bowl this year: the Japan Bowl against Texas Tech. Maybe this will be the year Nebraska loses to Oklahoma and still goes to the Orange Bowl.

Why did Bill McCartney stay at Colorado?

Three good reasons are in his backfield: quarterback Sal Aunese and halfbacks J.J. Flannigan and Eric Bieniemy. Plus, he has Oklahoma and Oklahoma State at home. If the Buffaloes' defense comes through, ask McCartney that question in Miami on January 2.

Can Woody Widenhofer crack .500 at Missouri? Will halfback Tony VanZant ever really play?

The answer to the latter may have a lot to do with the former. Widenhofer's hump games this year are Indiana and Colorado. Missouri could finish anywhere from third to sixth, depending on a defense that may be the best-kept secret in the league.

Will Iowa State, Kansas and Kansas State win any conference games?

Yes—when they play each other. Unless, of course, Kansas and Kansas State replay their Futility Bowl (17-17 tie).

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. NEBRASKA

Taylor overcomes Oklahoma albatross, leading Huskers to the Orange Bowl.

2. OKLAHOMA

Decimated by graduation losses, the Sooners will drop a notch.

3. COLORADO

The Buffs are within reach of the leaders and will seriously challenge in 1989.

4. OKLAHOMA STATE

The best offense in the Big Eight belongs to the Cowboys.

5. MISSOURI

Woody's Wagon finally is rolling on all four wheels.

6. IOWA STATE

The Cyclones keep improving as Walden ranks with the nation's best.

7. KANSAS

Program is in shambles. Few Jayhawks would start elsewhere in the league.

8. KANSAS STATE

Ditto for the Wildcats, who are going nowhere fast.

Is there a new Bermuda Triangle?

Yes. Kansas and Kansas State still form two corners, but Iowa State has moved in to take Missouri's place in the land of the lost fans, lost games and lost hope.

NEBRASKA

Coach: Tom Osborne (147-34-2, 15 years).
1987 Record: 6-1-2nd; 10-1 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Tom Banderas, TE; Steve Forch, LB; Micah Heibel, FB; Jeff Jamrog, DE; Keith Jones, IB; Keven Lightner, OT; John McCormick, OG; Lawrence Pete, MG; Tim Rother, DT; Neil Smith, DT; Rod Smith, SE; Brian Washington, S.

Starters Returning: **Offense (5):** Dana Brinson, WB, 5-9/170, Sr.; Andy Keeler, G, 6-3/265, Sr.; Bob Sledge, T, 6-2/270, Sr.; Steve Taylor, QB, 6-0/195, Sr.; Jake Young, C, 6-4/250, Jr. **Defense (5):** Mark Blazek, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; LeRoy Etienne, LB, 6-1/230, Sr.; Charles Fryar, CB, 5-10/175, Sr.; Lorenzo Hicks, CB, 5-11/195, Sr.; Broderick Thomas, LB, 6-3/235, Sr.

Key Returns: Richard Bell, WB, Jr.; Paul Brungardt, DT, Soph. (RS); Bryan Carpenter, FB, Jr.; Ken Clark, IB, Jr.; Reggie Cooper, S, Soph.; Mike Croel, LB, Soph.; Chris Drennan, K, Jr.; Chris Garrett, TE, Soph. (suffered shoulder injury during spring practice); Doug Glaser, OT, Jr.; Morgan Gregory, SE, Jr.; Willie Griffin, DT, Sr.; Tim Jackson, S, Sr.; Tyreese Knox, IB, Sr.; John Kroeker, P, Sr.; Jon Marco, LB, Sr.; Todd Millikan, TE, Sr.; Jeff Mills, LB, Jr.; Mike Murray, MG, Jr.; John Nelson, OG, Sr.; Terry Rodgers, IB, Soph. (RS); Pat Tyrance, LB, Soph.; Ray Valladao, DT, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Mickey Joseph, QB (RS).
Schedule: Texas A&M (at East Rutherford, N.J.), Aug. 27; Utah State, Sept. 3; at UCLA, Sept. 10; Arizona State, Sept. 24; Nevada-Las Vegas, Oct. 1; at Kansas, Oct. 8; Oklahoma State, Oct. 15; at Kansas State, Oct. 22; Missouri, Oct. 29; at Iowa State, Nov. 5; Colorado, Nov. 12; at Oklahoma, Nov. 19.

Whenever Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne hears that his team lost its last two games in 1987, he is quick to correct. The Huskers actually beat Colorado in between losses to Oklahoma and later Florida State in the Fiesta Bowl.

It's just that those two losses were so devastating emotionally to a Nebraska program that was ranked No. 1 on November 16. The Daily Nebraskan student newspaper called the Huskers' season "mediocre" and said Osborne's off-season raise wasn't deserved.

Osborne will earn it this year as the Huskers open up in the Kickoff Classic against Texas A&M, then travel to UCLA two weeks later, with Arizona State at home after that.

"If you look at the 1983 season, we were able to go in there, do well and get some momentum," said Osborne, referring to the Huskers' victory over Penn State in the first Kickoff Classic, which catapulted them to an undefeated regular season.

That game also launched Mike Rozier on his way to the Heisman Trophy. Osborne would like to see that same parallel work for All-Big Eight quarterback Steve Taylor, who had bigger games (victories over UCLA and Arizona State) than numbers (902 yards passing) last year, although he rushed for 659 yards, a school record for quarterbacks.

Taylor will be surrounded by the usual talented supporting cast in Lincoln. The Huskers' offensive line has three returning starters—junior center Jake Young, whom Osborne hints may be the school's best lineman ever, tackle Bob Sledge and guard Andy Keeler. Osborne should have no problem filling the other holes.

All-conference I-back Keith Jones is gone, but I-back Tyreese Knox and wingback Dana Brinson, the team's most potent offensive threat, won't let the Huskers skip a beat. Osborne has two more talented receivers in split end Morgan Gregory and tight end Todd Millikan. Redshirt sophomore Terry Rodgers, whose father, Johnny, won the Heisman at Nebraska, could help the running game if he's healthy.

Defensively, second-team All-America outside linebacker Broderick Thomas and inside linebacker LeRoy Etienne are the best in the league at their respective positions. The secondary also is a strength.

But the defense has a gaping hole in the interior line, where All-America tackle Neil Smith, Tim Rother and Lee Jones completed their eligibility. To make matters worse, middle guard Lawrence Pete quit the team in the spring.

That void in the line he must fill concerns Osborne more than any psychological damage the Huskers suffered from opening their mouths too wide before the Oklahoma game and having the Sooners stuff their shoes inside.

Continued

"That was something that wasn't typical of our program," Osborne said. "We'll definitely make them watch that this year. I don't think the losses (last season) are going to demoralize us. I think our players will be more hungry than ever to get the thing done."

OKLAHOMA

Coach: Barry Switzer (148-26-4, 15 years).
1987 Record: 7-0/1st; 11-0 overall.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Lydell Carr, FB; Patrick Collins, HB; Rickey Dixon, DB; Mark Hutson, OG; Keith Jackson, TE; Greg Johnson, OT; Troy Johnson, DE; Dante Jones, LB; Darren Kilpatrick, DT; Jon Phillips, OT; Darrell Reed, DE; David Vickers, DB; Derrick White, DB.

Starters Returning: **Offense (5):** Carl Cabiness, SE, 6-1/190, Sr.; Jamelle Holieway, QB, 5-9/180, Sr. (missed spring practice/knee); Bob Latham, C, 6-5/265, Sr.; Anthony Phillips, G, 6-3/280, Sr. (injured knee during spring practice); Anthony Stafford, HB, 5-7/175, Sr. **Defense (4):** Richard Dillon, LB, 6-0/215, Sr.; Lonnie Finch, CB, 6-3/188, Sr.; Curtice Williams, T, 6-3/265, Sr.; Dante Williams, NG, 6-2/270, Jr.

Key Returnees: Rotnei Anderson, FB, Sr.; Adrian Cooper, DE, Soph.; Scott Evans, DT, Soph.; Scott Garl, CB, Sr.; James Goode, DE, Soph. (RS/knee); Kert Kaspar, LB, Sr.; R.D. Lashar, K, Soph.; Ken McMichel, S, Jr.; Eric Mitchell, HB, Sr.; Duncan Parham, TE, Sr.; Leon Perry, FB, Jr. (RS/shoulder); Charles Thompson, QB, Soph.; Kevin Thompson, S, Jr.; Mark VanKeirsbilck, T, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Glen Bell, RB (Prop 48); Stacey Dillard, DL (RS); Billy Dykes, TE (RS); Rod Fisher, RB (RS); Mike Gaddis, HB (RS); Ted Long, HB (RS); Chris Melson,

DB (RS/switched from QB); Chris Wilson, LB (RS).

Schedule: At North Carolina, Sept. 10; Arizona, Sept. 17; at Southern Cal, Sept. 24; Iowa State, Oct. 1; Texas (at Dallas), Oct. 8; Kansas State, Oct. 15; at Colorado, Oct. 22; Kansas, Oct. 29; at Oklahoma State, Nov. 5; at Missouri, Nov. 12; Nebraska, Nov. 19.

It was less than 24 hours after the Orange Bowl—the night Miami (Fla.) shattered his wishbone—and Oklahoma Coach Barry Switzer's mind was already at work. Having seen a defense as talented and as fast as his stifle the corners and stuff the middle of the Sooner offense, Switzer wanted to make sure it didn't happen again. He told offensive coordinator Jim Donnan they would need to insert more sprint-out passing to keep the Sooners one step ahead this year.

"We need to have something to get us big plays and control the ball, and our quarterbacks aren't big enough to drop back," Donnan said. "We have to make sure when we play somebody with comparable talent, we have to be more flexible. We can't count on lining up our big boys and outrunning them."

The Sooners, who waved goodbye to 13 starters, will need more than a new wrinkle to win a fifth straight Big Eight title. Such players as tight end Keith Jackson, guard Mark Hutson, linebacker Dante Jones and safety Rickey Dixon—consensus All-Americans all—don't grow on trees, even in Oklahoma.

The state of the 1988 Sooners is such

that their biggest stars—quarterback Jamelle Holieway and second-team All-America guard Anthony Phillips—may not even play. Like Holieway, Phillips' status following knee surgery is uncertain.

One thing is certain: Holieway will do everything possible to play. The Sooners have a September 24 date against Southern California in Holieway's hometown of Los Angeles.

"I think he should come back at 100 percent at some point," assistant head coach Merv Johnson said. "Whether that is this year or next year, I don't know."

Holieway's presence should make the Sooners feel better, but everyone knows sophomore Charles Thompson can do the job. Thompson stepped in for Holieway the final three games of last season, including an impressive performance at Nebraska and a not-so-impressive one against Miami.

"Jamelle Holieway and Charles Thompson—that's the key to our season," Switzer said. "Our quarterbacks have to be healthy."

Behind senior halfback Anthony Stafford in the backfield is a group of young, typical Oklahoma speedsters. Oklahoma's line still is strong with all-conference center Bob Latham and, Switzer hopes, Phillips. But depth could be a problem. Duncan Parham, who could have started almost anywhere had he not been backing up Jackson, will help out at tight end.

Defensively, Switzer will have to fill in the blanks around tackle Curtice Williams, noseguard Dante Williams, linebacker Richard Dillon and cornerback Lonnie Finch. Oklahoma lost three starters in the secondary as well as veteran bookends Darrell Reed (a second-team All-America) and Troy Johnson, so the newcomers will have to grow up fast.

It's been a long time since Oklahoma had to reload to this extent.

"It's going to take more than that (reloading) this year since we lost so many great players," Johnson said. "We really like our young players, but we have so many of them in there that the (lack of) experience will have to be a factor."

COLORADO

Coach: Bill McCartney (27-40-1, 6 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/4th; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Drew Ferrando, SE; Curt Koch, DT; Eric McCarty, LB; John Nairn, CB; Mickey Pruitt, S; Kyle Rappold, MG; Rodney Rogers, S; Pat Ryan, OT; Chris Symington, OG; David Tate, CB; Anthony Weatherspoon, FB. **Starters Returning:** **Offense (8):** Sal Aunese, QB, 5-10/195, Jr. (suspended during spring practice for disciplinary reasons); Eric Blenlemy, HB, 5-6/185, Soph.; J.J. Flannigan, HB, 5-11/190, Jr.; Joe Garten, OG, 6-3/270, Soph.; George Hemingway, RB, 6-0/230, Soph. (switched from TE); Erich Kissick, FB, 5-11/205, Jr.; Darrin Muilenburg, T, 6-4/280, Jr.; Erik Norgard, C, 6-1/270, Sr.; **Defense (4):** Michael Jones, LB, 6-0/225, Jr.; Kanavis McGhee, LB, 6-5/230, Soph.; Tom Reinhart, MG, 6-3/235, Sr. (switched from LB); Arthur Walker, T, 6-4/255, Jr.

Key Returnees: Jeff Campbell, SE, Jr.; Bill Coleman, OT, Jr.; Jo Jo Collins, SE, Sr.; Don

Who'll Fill Thomas' Shoes?

Oklahoma State's newest starting tailback is nothing new to opponents.

While spending two years in Thurman Thomas' shadow, Barry Sanders wasn't sitting idly. Sanders has been the set-up man for the Cowboys' offense, and last year, nobody in the country did it better. Sanders had 14 kickoff returns for 442 yards (31.6-yard average), including two from one end zone to the other, to lead Division I-A. He was second in the division in punt returns with 15 for 244 yards (16.3 average) and two touchdowns.

Sanders was dangerous whenever he had the ball. Besides his four TDs on returns, he scored once on a pass reception and eight times on rushes. Despite playing second fiddle to Thomas, he rushed the ball 105 times for 603 yards. He was so impressive that some Cowboy fans wondered whether the right guy was starting.

"I heard that," said Sanders, who will replace the former All-America at tailback this fall. "I think I would have taken him (Thomas) over me. He



Barry Sanders

knew the plays, the blocking assignments. He knew where to run, as far as what holes and what would be there. My first two years, I just ran. I didn't know where the linemen were going to be half the time.

"I would have liked to have played more. You get cold sitting on the bench, and it's harder to get going when you do get in there. But he got the job done and I had two years left."

Sanders made the most of his first two years in Stillwater. With Thomas nursing a knee injury in

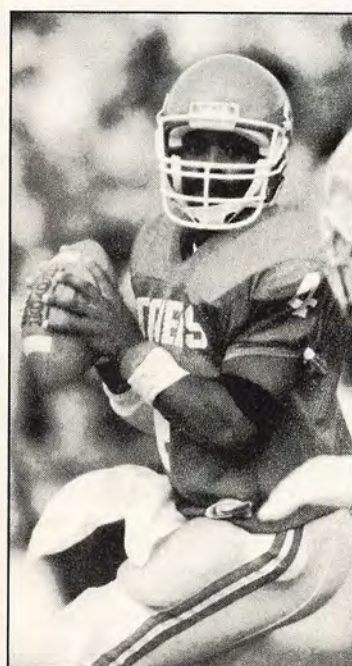
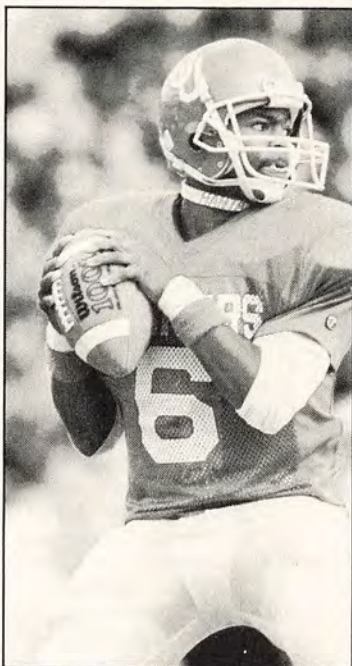
1986, Sanders was the team's second-leading rusher as a freshman. Then as a sophomore he earned All-America honors for his special-teams work.

"I've been doing that for a long time—as long as I can remember," the 5-foot-8, 190-pound junior said. "I enjoy doing that. I've talked to a lot of players who are afraid to do it because they think it's a meat squad. A lot of guys are afraid they'll get hurt. To me, it's just another facet of the game."

—TOM SHATEL



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DeLuzio, LB, Sr. (RS/knee); Keith English, P, Sr.; Tim James, S, Soph.; O.C. Oliver, CB, Jr. (switched from HB); Mike Pritchard, HB, Soph.; Okland Salavea, DT, Jr.; Michael Simmons, FB, Soph.; Ariel Solomon, OT, Soph. (switched from DT); Sam Sutherland, S, Jr.; Mark Vander Poel, OT, Soph.; Marc Walters, QB, Soph. (RS/knee/reinjured during spring practice); Alfred Williams, DE, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Steve Bishop, OT (JC); Darlan Hagan, QB; Eric Hamilton, QB; Bruce Young, S (JC).

Schedule: Fresno State, Sept. 10; at Iowa, Sept. 17; Oregon State, Sept. 24; at Colorado State, Oct. 1; Oklahoma State, Oct. 8; at Kansas, Oct. 15; Oklahoma, Oct. 22; Iowa State, Oct. 29; at Missouri, Nov. 5; at Nebraska, Nov. 12; Kansas State, Nov. 19.

A year ago, Colorado Coach Bill McCartney put himself on the hot seat when he said the Buffaloes' 1987 goal was to play on New Year's Day. What followed was a season in which the Buffs lost their fullback to a motorcycle injury; lost to Oregon, 10-7; endured a 42-17 nightmare against Oklahoma State, and couldn't talk their way into a bowl.

It turned out to be an unexpected rebuilding year for McCartney, but one that he hopes will pay off this season. Many of his promising young players got valuable experience last year, and after adding his best recruiting class ever, McCartney is building up a huge reserve of talent.

"We've got a lot of optimism because this is the most talent we've had," McCartney said. "We have more speed and more size than ever."

Colorado's backfield had fresh faces last year in quarterback Sal Aunese, halfback J.J. Flannigan (both Proposition 48 holdbacks) and sophomore halfback Eric Bieniemy, none of whom had any collegiate experience. But the trio helped Colorado become Division I-A's fourth-best rushing team.

Aunese, however, was suspended from spring practice after he attacked a student who "challenged his manhood" from a dorm window. Aunese can come back this fall "if he behaves," McCartney said. But missing spring ball is "going to set him back," he added.

The offense was set back even more when Anthony Weatherspoon was dismissed from the team for disciplinary reasons last spring. Weatherspoon, the fullback who had missed the '87 season following the motorcycle accident, won't return.

The backs will be working behind a sturdy line that features a strong pair of sophomores, tackle Mark Vander Poel and guard Joe Garten.

McCartney's biggest worry on defense is replacing four seniors in his secondary, including All-America safety Mickey Pruitt. But the line and linebacking, even with the loss of all-conference picks Kyle Rappold and Eric McCarty, are solid. Sophomores Alfred Williams and Kanavis McGhee lead a strong pass rush, and linebacker Don DeLuzio, who missed last season following knee surgery, is back.

Colorado had a second-team All-America punter in Barry Helton, but senior Keith English is a solid replacement.

"He's real good," McCartney said. "A



Quarterback Sal Aunese helped Colorado become Division I-A's fourth-best rushing team a year ago.

lot of times he would out-kick Barry in practice."

OKLAHOMA STATE

Coach: Pat Jones (34-13, 4 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/3rd; 9-2 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Jerry Deckard, DB; Kim Johnson, NG; Brien Keith, TE; Doug Meacham, OG; Robert Nunn, LB; Ricky Shaw, DE; Thurman Thomas, TB; Ron Williams, DE; Ronnie Williams, FL; Wade Weller, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): John Boisvert, C, 6-3/250, Sr.; Hart Lee Dykes, SE, 6-4/220, Sr.; Mike Gundy, QB, 5-11/180, Jr.; Jason Kidder, T, 6-3/272, Sr.; Garrett Limbrick, FB, 6-3/225, Sr.; Chris Stanley, G, 6-5/260, Jr.; Byron Woodard, T, 6-3/300, Sr. **Defense (5):** David Bailey, E, 6-4/240, Sr. (switched from T); Sim Drain, LB, 6-2/225, Jr.; Melvin Gilliam, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Marcus Jones, NG, 6-4/245, Sr.; Rod Smith, S, 6-2/195, Jr.

Key Returnees: Cary Blanchard, K, Soph.; Jarrod Green, FL, Jr.; Devin Jones, LB, Soph. (switched from FB); Shawn Mackey, DT, Soph.; Curtis Mayfield, FL, Jr.; Machoe Moore, LB, Soph.; Barry Sanders, TB, Jr.; Mike Wolfe, OT, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Vernon Brown, TB (RS); Fred Gaines, DB (RS); Gerald Hudson, TB (RS); Jason Kuhl, CB (JC); Lee Keith, TE; Lamar McGriggs, S (JC); Stacey Satterwhite, DT; Cecil Wilson, FB (Prop 48/switched from LB).

Schedule: Southwestern Louisiana, Sept. 10; Texas A&M, Sept. 24; Tulsa, Oct. 1; at Colorado, Oct. 8; at Nebraska, Oct. 15; Missouri, Oct. 22; at Kansas State, Oct. 29; Oklahoma, Nov. 5; Kansas, Nov. 12; at Iowa State, Nov. 19; Texas Tech (at Tokyo), Dec. 4.

If you want to watch Oklahoma State Coach Pat Jones boil, ask him if this is the

year his Cowboys can topple the Oklahoma-Nebraska dynasty.

"That has really irritated me," Jones said. "I think we can be a good football team. What that means, I don't know."

The Cowboys might be good enough to win the Big Eight. They have more returning starters (12) than both Oklahoma and Nebraska and have skill-position players as good as anybody's.

Not even the departure of former All-America tailback Thurman Thomas figures to hurt the Cowboys, whose only losses last year were to you know who. That's because Barry Sanders is still a junior. An All-America kick returner, Sanders also rushed for 603 yards on 105 carries last year and has Cowboys fans waiting to see what he does when he concentrates more on that.

Jones also has a terrific pass-catching threat in senior Hart Lee Dykes, perhaps the nation's best wide receiver. The all-conference pick caught 61 passes last year, and there should be more where that came from if quarterback Mike Gundy has another brilliant year. The diminutive Gundy is one of only two quarterbacks in Big Eight history to pass for more than 2,000 yards as a sophomore.

"I wouldn't trade him for anyone, period, in the nation," Jones said.

The Cowboys have some growing up to do on defense, particularly in the secondary and at linebacker. But safety Rod Smith, cornerback Melvin Gilliam and linebacker Sim Drain are solid veterans around which to build. End David Bailey anchors a strong line.

If the defense matures, there may be no stopping the Cowboys, unless it's, well, you know who.

"I always want our guys to fight and scratch to beat anybody, whether it be Kansas State or Iowa State," Jones said. "I don't ever want us to change in that approach. And if it's all said and done and we can have 10 wins, fine. I'll let the chips fall where they may."

MISSOURI

Coach: Woody Widenhofer (9-24, 3 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/5th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Flexbone. **Defense:** 4-3.

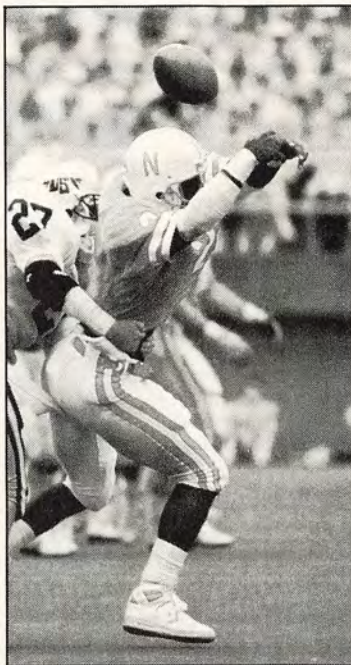
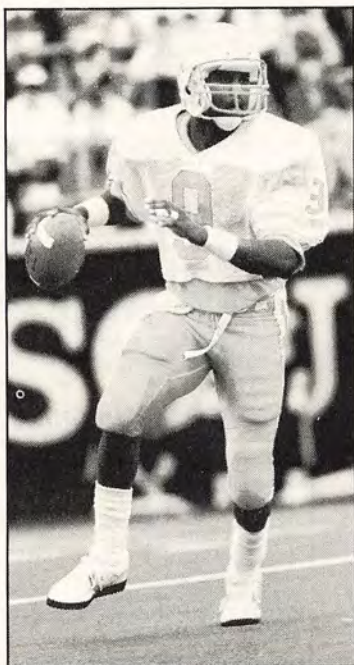
Key Losses: Robert Delpino, HB; Erik McMullan, S; Jeff Rigman, OG; Phil Schreiber, OT; Darrell Wallace, HB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Carl Bax, T, 6-5/275, Sr.; Tim Bruton, TE, 6-4/237, Soph.; Craig Lammers, SE, 5-9/163, Sr.; Chris Lowe, G, 6-2/276, Sr.; John Stollenwerck, QB, 6-0/200, Jr.; Tommie Stowers, FB, 6-3/216, Jr.; Curtis Wilson, C, 6-3/273, Sr. **Defense (9):** Ben Corl, E/LB, 6-2/233, Sr.; Darryl Darling, T, 6-2/282, Sr.; Jerold Fletcher, LB, 6-2/230, Jr.; Adrian Jones, CB, 6-0/184, Jr.; Darren MacDonald, LB, 6-1/193, Jr.; Charles Murphy, S, 6-1/198, Jr.; Pat Ray, CB, 5-10/179, Sr.; Steve Vandegriff, E, 6-5/277, Sr.; Kevin White, T, 6-4/263, Jr.

Key Returnees: Ronnie Cameron, WR, Sr. (switched from QB); Rob Dryden, OG, Soph.; Harry Colon, S, Soph.; Smiley Elmore, HB, Jr.; Jessie Holmes, CB, Sr.; Lee Johnson, DE, Jr.; Michael Jones, HB, Soph. (switched from FB); Mike Logan, LB, Soph. (switched from HB); Cordell McKinney, CB, Jr. (RS);

Continued

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SN88

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	HART LEE DYKES, Oklahoma State	6-04	220	Senior
WR	JARROD GREEN, Oklahoma State	6-01	194	Junior
TE	TIM BRUTON, Missouri	6-04	237	Soph.
T	BOB SLEDGE, Nebraska	6-02	270	Senior
T	MARK VANDER POEL, Colorado	6-08	270	Soph.
C	JAKE YOUNG, Nebraska	6-04	250	Junior
G	JOE GARTEN, Colorado	6-03	270	Soph.
G	ANTHONY PHILLIPS, Oklahoma	6-03	280	Senior
QB	MIKE GUNDY, Oklahoma State	5-11	185	Senior
RB	*BARRY SANDERS, Oklahoma State	5-08	190	Junior
RB	ANTHONY STAFFORD, Oklahoma	5-07	175	Senior
RB	TOMMIE STOWERS, Missouri	6-03	216	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	DANTE WILLIAMS, Oklahoma	6-02	270	Junior
DL	DAVID BAILEY, Oklahoma State	6-04	240	Senior
DL	STEVE VANDEGRIFT, Missouri	6-05	277	Senior
DL	KEVIN WHITE, Missouri	6-04	263	Junior
DL	ALFRED WILLIAMS, Colorado	6-06	225	Soph.
LB	RICHARD DILLON, Oklahoma	6-00	215	Senior
LB	LEROY ETIENNE, Nebraska	6-01	230	Senior
LB	MICHAEL JONES, Colorado	6-00	225	Junior
LB	BRODERICK THOMAS, Nebraska	6-03	235	Senior
DB	CHARLES FRYAR, Nebraska	5-10	175	Senior
DB	LORENZO HICKS, Nebraska	5-11	195	Senior
DB	ADRIAN JONES, Missouri	6-00	184	Junior
DB	ROD SMITH, Oklahoma State	6-02	195	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	JEFF SHUDAK, Iowa State	5-10	177	Soph.
P	KEITH ENGLISH, Colorado	6-03	215	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	*DANA BRINSON, Nebraska	5-09	170	Senior
WR	EDDIE BROWN, Iowa State	5-10	175	Senior
WR	DENNIS ROSS, Iowa State	6-03	197	Senior
TE	TODD MILLIKAN, Nebraska	6-03	245	Senior
T	CARL BAX, Missouri	6-05	275	Senior
T	RUSS STANGE, Kansas State	6-07	260	Senior
C	CURTIS WILSON, Missouri	6-03	273	Senior
G	ANDY KEELER, Nebraska	6-03	265	Senior
G	DARRIN MUILENBURG, Colorado	6-04	280	Junior
QB	STEVE TAYLOR, Nebraska	6-00	195	Senior
RB	JOE HENDERSON, Iowa State	6-00	202	Senior
RB	LEON PERRY, Oklahoma	6-01	225	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	MARCUS JONES, Oklahoma State	6-04	245	Senior
DL	STACEY DILLARD, Oklahoma	6-07	275	Fresh.
DL	KANAVIS MCGHEE, Colorado	6-05	230	Soph.
DL	CURTICE WILLIAMS, Oklahoma	6-03	265	Senior
LB	DON DeLUZIO, Colorado	6-02	235	Senior
LB	SIM DRAIN, Oklahoma State	6-02	225	Junior
LB	ANTHONY HOSKINS, Iowa State	6-01	231	Senior
LB	A.J. MILLER, Missouri	6-01	241	Junior
LB	CURTIS MOORE, Kansas	6-01	230	Soph.
DB	MARK BLAZEK, Nebraska	6-02	200	Senior
DB	MELVIN GILLIAM, Oklahoma State	6-00	175	Senior
DB	ERICK HARPER, Kansas State	6-01	210	Junior
DB	CLINT NORMORE, Kansas	6-00	200	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	CHRIS DRENNAN, Nebraska	5-09	175	Junior
P	JUDGE JOHNSTON, Iowa State	6-01	185	Junior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Vander Poel



Garten



Gundy



Vandegrift



A. Williams



Etienne



Thomas



A. Jones

1987 STATISTICS

Returns in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Thomas, Oklahoma St. ..	250	1613	18
Jones, Nebraska	170	1232	13
Henderson, Iowa St.	262	1232	5
Holloway, Oklahoma	142	860	10
Carr, Oklahoma	105	676	8
Jordan, Kansas St.	169	692	1
Delpino, Missouri	115	750	9
Aunese, Colorado	122	612	6
Thompson, Oklahoma ..	105	731	10
Taylor, Nebraska	130	659	8

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating	Points
Aunese, Colorado	51	23	146.6	
Holloway, Oklahoma	62	21	135.7	
Taylor, Nebraska	123	57	128.2	
Gundy, Oklahoma St.	287	170	128.2	
Sadek, Iowa St.	229	117	108.9	
Donohoe, Kansas	143	72	98.1	
Swim, Kansas St.	235	115	97.4	
Stollenwerck, Missouri ..	137	60	94.7	
DeGennaro, Iowa St.	73	37	93.3	
Hatcher, Colorado	52	22	78.9	

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Dykes, Oklahoma St.	61	978	8
Ross, Iowa St.	53	673	4
Dean, Kansas St.	38	481	4
Schulting, Iowa St.	31	443	1
Baker, Kansas	27	300	0
Bridges, Iowa St.	26	324	2
Jordan, Kansas St.	23	136	1
Vaughn, Kansas	25	672	4
Williams, Oklahoma St.	25	278	2
Green, Oklahoma St.	24	259	0

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Thomas, Oklahoma St. ..	278	1938	176.2
Jones, Nebraska	172	1256	125.6
Sanders, Oklahoma St.	138	1348	122.5
Henderson, Iowa St.	276	1305	118.6
Brinson, Nebraska	82	990	99.0
Holloway, Oklahoma	142	860	95.6
Dykes, Oklahoma St.	61	978	88.9
Ross, Iowa St.	70	855	85.5
Stafford, Oklahoma	98	929	84.4
Jordan, Kansas St.	192	828	82.8

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Helton, Colorado	40	1758	43.9
Whelihan, Missouri	61	2486	40.7
Rieth, Kansas	63	2524	40.1
Kroeker, Nebraska	36	1428	39.7
Johnston, Iowa St.	58	2087	35.9

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Sanders, Oklahoma St.	15	244	16.3
Hall, Oklahoma	11	145	13.2
Brinson, Nebraska	22	222	10.1
Campbell, Colorado	19	145	7.6
Lammers, Missouri	19	115	6.0

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Shudak, Iowa St.	25	20	1.82
Whelihan, Missouri	17	13	1.18
Lashar, Oklahoma	15	10	.91
Blanchard, Oklahoma St.	16	9	.82

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Sanders, Oklahoma St.	14	442	31.6
Brinson, Nebraska	14	329	23.5
Dillon, Kansas St.	17	350	20.6
VanZant, Missouri	13	244	18.8

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Dixon, Oklahoma	8	214	.73
Smith, Oklahoma St.	5	172	.45
McMillan, Missouri	5	119	.45
Gilliam, Oklahoma St.	5	53	.45
Pruitt, Colorado	5	27	.45

Pete Scott, OT, Jr.; Tony VanZant, HB, Soph. (missed spring/knee).

Top Newcomers: Darrell Bryant, S (JC); Brad Fitzmaurice, QB (RS); Chris Hall, FB (RS); Mario Johnson, FB/DL; Meredith Johnson, DT (JC); Skip Leach, QB (RS); A.J. Miller, LB (RS-transfer/SMU); Charles Quint, HB (RS); Curtis Roberts, DL (Prop 48); Sharron Washington, S (RS); Corey Welch, QB (RS).

Schedule: Utah State, Sept. 10; Houston, Sept. 17; Indiana, Sept. 24; at Miami (Fla.), Oct. 1; at Kansas State, Oct. 8; Iowa State, Oct. 15; at Oklahoma State, Oct. 22; at Nebraska, Oct. 29; Colorado, Nov. 5; Oklahoma, Nov. 12; at Kansas, Nov. 19.

For a guy yet to have a winning season in three tries, Missouri Coach Woody Widenhofer doesn't mind putting a little pressure on himself. At one booster meeting last December, Widenhofer guaranteed his team would be preparing for a bowl a year later. He also has said the Tigers could finish in the top three in the Big Eight this year.

That likely would mean beating out either Oklahoma State or Colorado. And that would be the next logical progression for Widenhofer, who has gone, in order, 1-10, 3-8 and 5-6 and has only one victory over a winning program (Baylor last year). Widenhofer has shown he can beat up on Kansas and Kansas State. Now Missouri fans want more.

Last year's 5-6 record was dangerously close to raising eyebrows. Missouri led Indiana late in the game before giving up the winning touchdown on the Hoosiers' final drive. They were in the game late with Syracuse before losing, 24-13. They lost to Oklahoma State and Oklahoma by four points each.

"I think we have a shot to be in the top three," Widenhofer said. "As good a shot as Colorado or Oklahoma State. We are to the point now where our team is ready to beat those teams. We've gotten ahead of Kansas, Kansas State and Iowa State. Now we've got to move on and learn how to put the other guys away."

Missouri will start only six seniors, but for Widenhofer that means he finally gets to be judged with his recruits. Some of the top ones figure to be senior center Curtis Wilson, a former junior college transfer whom Widenhofer considers the best in the league, sophomore tight end Tim Bruton, fullback Tommie Stowers (787 yards rushing last fall) and quarterback John Stollenwerck, who ran the flexbone effectively last year.

Widenhofer also could have his best defense (which may not be saying too much) in his four years. Switching to a four-man front last season helped immensely. Nine starters return, including end Steve Vandegrift, tackle Darryl Darling and cornerbacks Adrian Jones and Pat Ray, both of whom thank former Miami (Fla.) flanker Michael Irvin for turning pro. (See October 1 game at Miami.)

The Tigers' best defense this year may be their wishbone offense, which spent the spring working on improving the pass. Missouri ranked 98th in passing, 13th in rushing in I-A last year. But the Tigers won't need to pass much if sophomore



Missouri quarterback John Stollenwerck ran the flexbone effectively last year.

halfback Tony VanZant is healthy. VanZant, a prep All-America, played sparingly last year while coming off knee surgery.

"If he ends up getting back to his high school form, it will be a big bonus," Widenhofer said.

IOWA STATE

Coach: Jim Walden (3-8, 1 year; 47-60-4 overall).

1987 Record: 2-5/6th; 3-8 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Eddie Bridges, FL; Robert Dabney, DE; Chris Moore, LB; Randy Richards, LB; Brett Sadek, QB; John Smith, C; Tom Stawniak, FL.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Mike Busch, TE, 6-5/220, Jr.; Joe Henderson, FB, 6-0/202, Sr.; David Heyn, C, 6-1/252, Sr.; Edwin Jones, RB, 5-11/185, Soph.; Ben Mitchell, G, 6-4/297, Jr.; Rich Moore, G, 6-5/260, Sr.; Dennis Ross, SE, 6-3/197, Sr.; Trent Van Hoosen, G, 6-3/230, Jr. **Defense (8):** Tim Baker, S, 6-2/190, Jr.; Randy Bern, T, 6-3/258, Jr.; Ray Carreathers, CB, 6-2/180, Sr.; Jeff Dole, S, 6-1/195, Sr.; Anthony Hoskins, LB, 6-1/231, Sr.; Alan Patten, T, 6-3/250, Sr.; Marcus Robertson, CB, 6-2/175, Soph.; Loype Williams, CB, 5-10/180, Sr.

Key Returnees: Brian Barkley, OT, Soph.; Joe Blankenship, CB, Soph. (RS); Eddie Brown, FL, Sr. (RS/ankle); Michael Brown, RB, Jr.; Derek DeGennaro, QB, Sr.; Don Edwards, DE, Jr.; Mark Foley, DE, Soph.; John Gloffetty, QB, Soph. (broke collarbone in spring); Judge Johnston, P, Jr.; Matthew Rehberg, DT, Soph.; Mike Shane, LB, Jr.; Jeff Shudak, K, Soph.; Keith Sims, OG, Sr. (RS/toe/switched from OT); Charlie Vondra, LB, Jr.; Curtis Warren, RB, Sr. (RS/academics); Rick Wells, OG, Sr.; Gene Williams, OT, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Tony Artis, DB (JC); Andrew Buggs, S; Matt Fauser, WR; Robert Lendino, LB (JC); Bret Oberg, QB (JC); Marvin Sellar, QB; Ty Williams, SE (RS).

Schedule: Tulane, Sept. 10; Baylor, Sept. 17; at Iowa, Sept. 24; at Oklahoma, Oct. 1;

Northern Iowa, Oct. 8; at Missouri, Oct. 15; Kansas, Oct. 22; at Colorado, Oct. 29; Nebraska, Nov. 5; at Kansas State, Nov. 12; Oklahoma State, Nov. 19.

Iowa State Coach Jim Walden wonders what he did to deserve getting Oklahoma first on his conference schedule again.

"Oh well, it's just like taking a shot," Walden said. "Get it over with."

Walden's stand-up comedy helped get Iowa State players and fans through their first season together in 1987, but that didn't turn out as bad as expected after the Cyclones beat both Kansas and Kansas State to finish sixth.

Now there is good news and bad news for Iowa State fans. The good: Walden, an offensive wizard, has some top skill talent back in split end Dennis Ross (53 catches last year) and fullback Joe Henderson, a blue-collar type who rushed for 1,232 yards. Also back is All-Big Eight place-kicker Jeff Shudak, who set a school record with 20 field goals.

Walden doesn't have an experienced quarterback, but he will make either senior Derek DeGennaro or sophomore John Gloffetty work.

The bad news: The Cyclones have only one defensive returnee that Walden considers a "name" player in senior safety Jeff Dole. Iowa State gave up 484.3 yards per game (next to last in I-A) last year.

"Your fortunes always ride on defense, and our defense is not ready to lead us to good fortunes," Walden said. "No matter how good our people on offense are, we still are going to get our teeth kicked in sometimes because we can't stop anybody."

KANSAS

Coach: Glen Mason (first year at Kansas; 12-10 overall, 2 years).

1987 Record: 0-6-1/T7th; 1-9-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: Eldridge Avery, DT; Rich Bredeesen, LB; Jim Davis, OT; Milt Garner, S; Bryan Howard, OG; Teddy Newman, DT; Bob Pieper, OT; Mike Rogers, FB; David White, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Jay Allen, G, 6-3/260, Sr.; John Baker, TE, 6-4/230, Jr.; Chip Budde, C, 6-2/260, Soph.; Kelly Donohoe, QB, 6-0/180, Jr.; Arnold Snell, TB, 6-0/200, Sr.; Willie Vaughn, WR, 6-0/185, Sr. **Defense (5):** Rodney Harris, CB, 5-10/190, Sr.; Mark Koncz, DT, 6-6/260, Jr.; Curtis Moore, LB, 6-1/230, Soph.; Clint Normore, S, 6-0/200, Sr.; Kyle Schenker, LB, 6-4/220, Soph.

Key Returnees: Wolf Blaser, TE, Soph.; Rick Clayton, LB, Sr.; David Gordon, DT, Soph.; Dave Grattan, OG, Sr.; Frank Hatchett, TB, Soph.; Bill Sutter, CB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Lance Flachsbarth, LB (RS/switched from QB); John Fritch, OT; Tim Hill, QB; Smith Holland, OT (RS); Tim Jenkins, CB (RS); John Henry Johnson, TB; Kelvin Johnson, TB; B.J. Lohsen, P; Chris Perez, OT (RS); Tony Sands, TB; Paul Zafaroni, LB (RS).

Schedule: Baylor, Sept. 10; at Auburn, Sept. 17; at California, Sept. 24; New Mexico State, Oct. 1; Nebraska, Oct. 8; Colorado, Oct. 15; at Iowa State, Oct. 22; at Oklahoma, Oct. 29; Kansas State, Nov. 5; at Oklahoma State, Nov. 12; Missouri, Nov. 19.

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Bill McCartney, Colorado; Pat Jones, Oklahoma State; Jim Walden, Iowa State.

With Switzer and Osborne stalking the sidelines in the Big Eight, many will go unnoticed. McCartney and Jones have built competitive programs, and Walden will have the Cyclones up there within three years.

Best coaches: Tom Osborne, Nebraska; Barry Switzer, Oklahoma.

They've kept the Huskers and Sooners among the elite.

Best programs: Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado, Oklahoma State.

Worst programs: Kansas, Kansas State.

Programs on the rise: Iowa State, Missouri.

Most underrated players: Eddie Brown, FL, Iowa State; Tim Bruton, TE, Missouri; Jeff Dole, S, Iowa State; Jarrod Green, FL, Oklahoma State; Joe Henderson, FB, Iowa State; Michael Jones, LB, Colorado; Garrett Limbrick, FB, Oklahoma State; Kanavis McGhee, LB, Colorado; Erik Norgard, C, Colorado; Clint Normore, S, Kansas; Dennis Ross, SE, Iowa State; Keith Sims, OG, Iowa State; Bob Sledge, OT, Nebraska; Rod Smith, S,



Underrated: Oklahoma quarterback Charles Thompson

Oklahoma State; Anthony Stafford, HB, Oklahoma; Tommie Stowers, FB, Missouri; Charles Thompson, QB, Oklahoma; Curtis Wilson, C, Missouri.

Most overrated players: Sal Aunese, QB, Colorado; Melvin Gilliam, CB, Oklahoma State; Jamelle Holieway, QB, Oklahoma; Lee Johnson, DE, Missouri; Tony VanZant, HB, Missouri.

Stars on the horizon: Eric Bieniemy, HB, Colorado; Reggie Cooper, S, Nebraska; Mike Croel, DE, Nebraska; Stacey Dillard, DT, Oklahoma; Scott Evans, DT, Oklahoma; J.J. Flannigan, HB, Colorado;

James Goode, DE, Oklahoma; George Hemingway, HB, Colorado; Mario Johnson, FB/DT, Missouri; Meredith Johnson, DT, Missouri; Michael Jones, HB, Missouri; Shawn Mackey, DT, Oklahoma State; Curtis Mayfield, WR, Oklahoma State; Lamar McGriggs, S, Oklahoma State; A.J. Miller, LB, Missouri; Stacey Satterwhite, DT, Oklahoma State; Pat Tyrance, LB, Nebraska; Mark Vander Poel, OT, Colorado; Mark VanKeirsbilck, OT, Oklahoma; Sharron Washington, S, Missouri; Alfred Williams, DE, Colorado; Gene Williams, OT, Iowa State; Paul Yniquez, C, Kansas State; Bruce Young, S, Colorado.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Oklahoma, Colorado, Nebraska; receivers—Oklahoma State, Nebraska, Iowa State; offensive linemen—Colorado, Nebraska, Oklahoma; defensive linemen—Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado; linebackers—Nebraska, Oklahoma, Colorado; defensive backfield—Nebraska, Oklahoma State, Missouri.

Conference snake pits: Nebraska, Oklahoma.

The Sooners and Huskers seldom taste defeat at home unless one knocks off the other.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Get to the Colorado game. That's the theme for Kansas football this year.

Not for first-year Coach Glen Mason and his Jayhawks. We're talking Kansas fans here. If they can make it to the Colorado game October 15 in Lawrence, they can turn their attention to the opening of basketball practice and Kansas' defense of its national championship.

That may not be fair to Mason, but that's what he got when he left Kent State (which beat Kansas last year) to replace Bob Valesente, who was fired after two seasons. He also got a non-conference schedule that features Baylor and New Mexico State at home and games at Auburn and California.

This will be a year for Mason and his players to get acquainted. Mason, who took over 48 players at the beginning of the spring, figures to run a tighter ship than the mild-mannered Valesente.

Mason knows he must find a way to get the ball in the hands of wide receiver Willie Vaughn and tailback Arnold Snell. The question is who will give it to them. It should be Kelly Donohoe, who started six games at quarterback last year, unless one of Mason's incoming freshmen can beat him out.

Mason's 5-2 defense will be anchored by linebacker Curtis Moore and safety Clint Normore, who was a reserve guard on the Jayhawks' championship basketball team.

Mason's first glimpse of the Jayhawks wasn't good. His first words after the first

day of spring practice were, "They were terrible." It's all uphill from here.

KANSAS STATE

Coach: Stan Parrish (2-19-1, 2 years; 57-30-3 overall, 9 years).

1987 Record: 0-6-1/T7th; 0-10-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Dwayne Bazel, LB; Kent Dean, TE; Matt Garner, OG; Dan Hughes, WR; Tony Jordan, TB; Brad Lambert, DB; Rick Lewis, FB; Tim MacDonald, DT; Grady Newton, LB; Matt Wallerstedt, LB; John Williamson, WR.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Chad Faulkner, C, 6-1/275, Jr.; Will McCain, T, 6-3/270, Jr.; Russ Stange, T, 6-7/260, Sr.; Gary Swim, QB, 6-2/210, Sr.; Eric Zabelin, G, 6-1/275, Jr. **Defense (6):** Erick Harper, S, 6-1/210, Jr.; Tyreese Herds, CB, 5-11/200, Jr.; Bobby Lawrence, NG, 6-2/255, Soph.; Marcus Miller, CB, 5-11/180, Jr.; Jim Oehm, T, 6-3/245, Sr.; Lorne Whittle, LB, 6-2/200, Jr.

Key Returnees: Doug Blackburne, DT, Sr.; Maurice Henry, LB, Jr. (switched from RB); Lee Pickett, FB, Sr.; Mark Porter, K, Sr.; Dimitrie Scott, DB, Jr. (RS/switched from TB); Vantz Singletary, LB, Sr.; Alan Smith, LB, Sr.; Darrell Wyatt, WR, Sr. (injured knee in spring practice).

Top Newcomers: David Brooks, WR; Russ Campbell, TE (RS); Andrew Cunningham, WR (RS); Antoine Dulan, TB (Prop 48); Frank Hernandez, WR; Sonny Ray Jones, TB; George Matsakis, P; Danny Needham, LB (RS); Emanuel Pearson, DB (Prop 48); Todd Sedwick, LB; Ed Sewruk, OT; L.C. Timms, TB (RS); Paul Watson, QB (RS); Paul Yniquez, C (JC; RS/knee); Scott Zele, LB.

Schedule: At Tulsa, Sept. 3; Iowa, Sept. 10; at Tulane, Sept. 17; Louisiana Tech, Oct. 1;

Missouri, Oct. 8; at Oklahoma, Oct. 15; Nebraska, Oct. 22; Oklahoma State, Oct. 29; at Kansas, Nov. 5; Iowa State, Nov. 12; at Colorado, Nov. 19.

After the longest season in his career, Kansas State Coach Stan Parrish returns with his sanity and a new philosophy. His big junior college experiment (16) having failed, he ignored transfers in his recruiting last spring and decided to reinstall a passing game.

The coach had put Air Parrish on hold for one year in favor of bringing in junior college size to muscle opponents on the ground. But after a year in which the Wildcats had Division I-A's third-worst total offense, the passing game is back.

Don't expect a dramatic transition. Returning at quarterback is Gary Swim, who was less than spectacular last fall and could get bumped by redshirt freshman Paul Watson. No experienced receivers return, either.

Safety Erick Harper leads a potentially decent secondary. The rest of the defensive unit ranks somewhat lower.

By Parrish's own admission, Kansas State is the youngest team in the league. The Wildcats didn't have a spring game because they lacked numbers, and they may not win a game again this year. But Parrish figures putting the ball in the air gives him a better shot.

"People say you can't win by throwing in this league, but we're going to find out," Parrish said. ■

Rest of Big Ten is pulling closer to 'Big Two'

By MARK DUKES
Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Gazette

There still may be a "Big Two and Little Eight" in Big Ten Conference football, but identifying each group isn't so easy anymore.

For years, it was Ohio State and Michigan. From 1968 to '82, the Wolverines and Buckeyes either won or shared the Big Ten title. Six times they tied for the top; five other times they finished 1-2.

Michigan and Ohio State haven't disappeared from title contention, but it isn't so academic anymore. The Big Ten has had five different Rose Bowl representatives in the last five seasons—Illinois, Ohio State, Iowa, Michigan and Michigan State—and more of the same unpredictability appears to be in store this season.

The Big Ten's best overall record over the last five seasons belongs to Iowa at 46-15-1. Michigan is 44-16-1, Ohio State 43-16-1. Michigan has the best conference record (31-10-1), followed by Iowa (30-11-1) and Ohio State (29-13).

"If there is still a Big Two in the Big Ten, we must be one of the two," Iowa Coach Hayden Fry said.

Last year, of course, the old Big Two did not finish in the top three, as Michigan State went 7-0-1 and Iowa and Indiana tied for second at 6-2.

Most observers attribute the league's increasing competitiveness to the NCAA scholarship limits and the entrance into the league of such coaches as Michigan State's George Perles, Indiana's Bill Mallory, Fry and, more recently, John Gutekunst at Minnesota and Fred Akers at Purdue.

This season, two more proven big-time college football winners enter the league. John Cooper is at Ohio State, where he takes over for the highly successful Earle Bruce, and John Mackovic, former Wake Forest and Kansas City Chiefs coach, replaces Mike White at Illinois.

MICHIGAN

Coach: Bo Schembechler (175-44-4, 19 years; 215-61-7 overall, 25 years).

1987 Record: 5-3/4th; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Allen Bishop, CB; Erik Campbell, S; John Elliott, OT; Billy Harris, MG; Doug Mallory, S; Jamie Morris, RB; Monte Robbins, P.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Demetrius Brown, QB, 6-1/195, Jr.; Jeff Brown, TE, 6-4/248, Sr.; Jarrod Bunch, FB, 6-2/236, Soph.; Dave Chester, G, 6-2/267, Sr.; Michael Dames, G, 6-2/268, Sr.; Mike Husar, T, 6-3/287, Sr.; John Kolesar, WR, 6-0/187, Sr.; Greg McMurtry, SE, 6-3/197, Jr.; John Vitale, C, 6-1/273, Sr. **Defense (7):** Bobby Abrams, LB, 6-4/221, Jr.; David Arnold, CB, 6-3/195, Sr.; Keith Cooper, LB, 6-2/215, Jr.; J.J. Grant, LB, 6-1/237, Jr.; John Herrmann, T, 6-5/267, Jr.; Mark Messner, T, 6-3/244, Sr.; Tim Williams, LB, 6-4/237, Soph.

Key Returnees: Tony Boles, RB, Soph.; Chris Calloway, WR, Soph.; Dean Dingman, OG,

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. MICHIGAN

Schembechler's squad has the making of a national champion.

2. IOWA

October 15 duel with Michigan will decide Rose Bowl representative.

3. OHIO STATE

In three years, Cooper will have Buckeyes contending for the national crown.

4. MICHIGAN STATE

Enough talent remains for another shot at the Rose Bowl if McAllister improves.

5. MINNESOTA

Dark-horse Gophers could be bound for Pasadena—in '89.

6. INDIANA

Defensive improvement will warrant a higher rating for the Hoosiers.

7. ILLINOIS

Illini fans are praying that transfer quarterback George is their messiah.

8. PURDUE

Akers' Makers will gradually work their way up the Big Ten ladder.

9. WISCONSIN

The Badgers are always tough in Madison but lack depth and big-play types.

10. NORTHWESTERN

Mamma, don't let your babies grow up to be Wildcats. Peay deserves better.

Soph.; Tom Dohring, OT, Soph.; Mike Gillette, K, Sr.; Leroy Hoard, FB, Soph.; Allen Jefferson, TB, Soph.; David Key, CB, Soph.; Sean LaFountaine, CB, Jr.; Warde Manuel, DT, Soph.; Anthony Mitchell, S, Jr.; T.J. Osman, MG/DT, Soph.; Neil Simpson, LB, Soph.; Marc Spencer, LB, Soph.; Michael Taylor, QB, Jr.; Mike Teeter, MG, Soph.; Derrick Walker, TE, Jr.; Tripp Welbourne, WR/DB, Soph.; Brent White, DT, Jr.; Tracy Williams, TB, Soph.; John Willingham, LB, Sr. **Top Newcomers:** Eric Bush, QB (RS); Dan Jokisch, WR (RS); Wilbur Odom, QB (RS); Greg Skrepenak, OT (RS).

Schedule: At Notre Dame, Sept. 10; Miami (Fla.), Sept. 17; Wake Forest, Sept. 24; at Wisconsin, Oct. 1; Michigan State, Oct. 8; at Iowa, Oct. 15; Indiana, Oct. 22; at Northwestern, Oct. 29; Minnesota, Nov. 5; Illinois, Nov. 12; at Ohio State, Nov. 19.

Michigan fans have learned over the years that it begins and ends with defense.

Based on that assumption, watch out for the Wolverines. They had all kinds of trouble at linebacker last season, mostly due to a variety of injuries, but still finished second to Big Ten champion Michigan State in total defense.

If Michigan can improve its linebacking and solidify the secondary, it should be the team to beat.

"I think we'll be better off there (at linebacker), especially since we did not anticipate losing three 'backers to injury at the beginning of the season last year," Coach Bo Schembechler said. "Now I think we'll

have a little more depth and be able to withstand an injury or two if it happens again this year."

Schembechler hopes for a big season from linebacker J.J. Grant.

"He's got all the ability in the world," Schembechler said. "He can run, he's got good talent, he's smart."

Half a dozen other linebackers will compete for playing time, most notably Bobby Abrams and Curtis Feaster on the outside.

Michigan lost three of four starters in the secondary but does return experienced safeties Anthony Mitchell and Rick Hassel and cornerbacks David Arnold and Sean LaFountaine.

The line is the strength of the defense. All-America tackle Mark Messner is the leader up front. Mike Teeter, T.J. Osman, John Herrmann, Brent White and Warde Manuel have a lot of experience.

The offense also looks solid, even though consensus All-America tackle John Elliott and Big Ten rushing champion Jamie Morris are gone.

Tony Boles, Tracy Williams and Allen Jefferson give Schembechler a lot of flexibility in the backfield.

Elliott's spot will go to either 6-foot-8, 322-pound Greg Skrepenak, a redshirt freshman, or Tom Dohring, while Mike Husar, another all-conference selection, will handle the opposite side.

Michigan's next All-America offensive lineman may be center John Vitale, an all-conference selection last season. Dean Dingman and David Chester will compete for one guard spot with Michael Dames on the other side.

Starter Demetrius Brown and backup Michael Taylor return at quarterback. More consistency will be expected from Brown, who threw seven interceptions one week (against Michigan State), then passed the Wolverines to a big win over Iowa the next.

IOWA

Coach: Hayden Fry (71-36-1, 9 years; 161-125-5 overall, 26 years).

1987 Record: 6-2/2nd; 9-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Rick Bayless, RB; Kerry Burt, S; Quinn Early, WR; Mike Flagg, TE; Kevin Harmon, RB; Rob Houghtlin, K; J.J. Puk, LB; Dwight Sistrunk, S; Herb Wester, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Bill Anderson, C, 6-3/260, Jr.; Marv Cook, TE, 6-4/243, Sr.; Greg Davis, T, 6-3/271, Sr.; Chuck Hartlieb, QB, 6-3/205, Sr.; David Hudson, FB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Bob Schmitt, 6-6/252, Sr.; Travis Watkins, WR, 6-1/180, Jr. **Defense (6):** Mike Burke, E, 6-5/225, Sr.; Dave Haight, NG, 6-3/285, Sr.; Merton Hanks, S, 6-2/178, Soph. (switched from CB); Joe Mott, E, 6-4/245, Sr.; Brad Quast, 6-2/248, Jr.; Anthony Wright, CB, 5-10/188, Jr.

Key Returnees: Tim Anderson, DT, Sr.; Richard Bass, FB, Jr.; Melvin Foster, LB, Soph.; Paul Glonek, DT, Jr.; Tork Hook, S, Jr.; Jeff Koepfel, DT, Jr.; Bob Kratch, OT/OG, Sr. (RS); Peter Marciano, WR, Jr.; Tom Po-

holsky, QB, Jr.; Jim Reilly, LB, Sr.; Sean Ridley, DE, Jr.; Keaton Smiley, CB, Jr.; Tony Stewart, RB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Jon Filloon, WR (RS); George Hawthorne, OT (JC/RS); Mike Saunders, RB (RS); Jeff Skillet, K (RS); Sean Smith, WR (JC).

Schedule: At Hawaii, Sept. 3; at Kansas State, Sept. 10; Colorado, Sept. 17; Iowa State, Sept. 24; at Michigan State, Oct. 1; Wisconsin, Oct. 8; Michigan, Oct. 15; at Purdue, Oct. 22; at Indiana, Oct. 29; Northwestern, Nov. 5; Ohio State, Nov. 12; at Minnesota, Nov. 19.

Iowa will be shooting for its 10th straight first-division Big Ten finish—at minimum.

Senior Chuck Hartlieb was brilliant after he finally emerged last season as the starting quarterback. The Hawkeyes closed with six straight wins and Hartlieb earned all-conference honors.

"Based on appearance, he's not the picture-book passer," Fry said. "But you've gotta take the whole package. He's a plus in every category."

Fry thinks he has as many All-America candidates as any Big Ten team. In addition to Hartlieb, honors candidates include tight end Marv Cook, noseguard Dave Haight and tackle Bob Kratch.

Cook is one of the Big Ten's most versatile performers. He also punts and makes a couple of tackles per game on specialty teams. He had 49 receptions for 803 yards last season, including a 28-yarder with six seconds left that beat Ohio State, 29-27.

Haight, a two-time all-conference per-

former, was named the Big Ten's top defensive lineman after leading the Hawkeyes last season with 126 tackles.

Kratch has recovered nicely from a broken leg that sidelined him the second half of '87. An all-league choice at guard two seasons ago, Kratch has grown to 288 pounds and will anchor the offensive line at left tackle.

With the return of Hartlieb, Iowa should continue to impress offensively. Over the last five seasons, the Hawkeyes are No. 1 nationally in pass efficiency and No. 3 in total offense.

Sophomore running back Tony Stewart and fullback David Hudson give Iowa a capable backfield, while Kratch, center Bill Anderson and guard Greg Divis return to the offensive line.

Iowa returns Haight and its top four defensive ends, including starters Mike Burke and Joe Mott. The Hawkeyes have experience at linebacker with junior Brad Quast, sophomore Melvin Foster and senior Jim Reilly.

Iowa has six veterans competing for jobs in the secondary. Keaton Smiley, who redshirted last season, returns after leading the team in interceptions in 1986.

OHIO STATE

Coach: John Cooper (first year at Ohio State; 82-40-2 overall, 11 years).
1987 Record: 4-4/5th; 6-4-1 overall.
Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: George Cooper, FB; Alex Higdon, TE; Ray Holliman, DL; Ray Jackson, S; Eric Kumerow, LB; Fred Ridder, LB; Chris Spielman, LB; Tom Tupa, QB/P; William White, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Karl Coles, T, 6-5/260, Jr. (switched from G); Tim Moxley, T, 6-7/288, Jr.; Everett Ross, SE, 5-11/180, Sr.; Carlos Snow, TB, 5-9/194, Soph.; Joe Staysniak, T, 6-5/282, Jr.; Jeff Uhlenhake, C, 6-4/256, Sr.; Vince Workman, TB, 5-11/194, Sr. (switched from FL); Greg Zackeroff, G, 6-5/260, Sr. **Defense (5):** David Brown, S, 6-0/188, Jr.; Zack Dumas, CB, 6-2/190, Jr.; Mike McCray, LB, 6-3/221, Jr.; Mike Showalter, DL, 6-4/260, Jr.; Mike Sullivan, NG, 6-0/250, Jr.

Key Returns: Jaymes Bryant, FB, Jr.; Ken Coleman, DT, Soph.; Tony Cupe, CB, Soph. (switched from SE); Jeff Davidson, OG, Jr.; Jeff Ellis, TE, Soph.; Matt Frantz, K, Sr.; Greg Frey, QB, Soph.; Andy Gurd, LB, Soph.; John Kacherski, LB, Soph. (switched from NG); Bill Matlock, FB, Sr.; Jim Peel, S, Soph.; John Sullivan, LB, Sr. (missed spring practice/knee); Pat Thomas, NG, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Vince Clark, DB (Prop 48); Bernard Edwards, SE (RS); Rich Frimel, L; Scotty Graham, FB; Kirk Herbstreit, QB; Marc Hicks, RB (transfer/California); Buster Howe, RB/DB; Corey Pargo, OL; Chris Roy, TE/LB.

Schedule: Syracuse, Sept. 10; at Pittsburgh, Sept. 17; Louisiana State, Sept. 24; Illinois, Oct. 1; at Indiana, Oct. 8; Purdue, Oct. 15; at Minnesota, Oct. 22; at Michigan State, Oct. 29; Wisconsin, Nov. 5; at Iowa, Nov. 12; Michigan, Nov. 19.

A new era began at Ohio State on New Year's Eve when John Cooper left Arizona State to become the Buckeye boss.

Earle Bruce had coached the Buckeyes to a 127-60-1 record and four league championships or co-championships. But a 6-4-1 mark in 1987 led to his ouster.

Cooper, whose 1986 Arizona State team beat Michigan in the Rose Bowl, had a 25-9-2 record in Tempe.

"You bet I'm excited," Cooper said. "I'll tell you this: I am tremendously impressed by their attitude. I like the way they have responded to our conditioning program. We need to get stronger, especially the linemen."

Cooper's top spring priority was to find a replacement for quarterback Tom Tupa, who also doubled as a consensus All-America punter. Sophomore Greg Frey cleared up the quarterback question with a solid spring after throwing only 20 passes last year in relief of Tupa.

Cooper also spent the spring shuffling bodies, making several position switches to strengthen Ohio State's offense.

The most notable of the offensive switches involved Vince Workman, who requested to move from his flanker position to tailback. Workman, combined with sophomore Carlos Snow, could give the Buckeyes an explosive running attack. But it could get even better if Marc Hicks, a top-notch transfer from California, is declared eligible for the '88 season.

All five starting offensive linemen return, with Karl Coles slated to switch from guard to tackle. Tackle Joe Staysniak and center Jeff Uhlenhake should rank among the best in the Big Ten at their positions.

Everett Ross was Ohio State's top receiver last season with 29 catches and five touchdowns.

Returning to anchor the Buckeye de-

Who'll Fill White's Shoes?



If tailback Lorenzo White's replacement lives up to expectations, look for more college coaches to start recruiting casinos as well as high schools.

In 1984, Michigan State Coach George Perles got a call from Bernie Ezor, a baccarat pit boss at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas. Perles had met Ezor years before while taking staff vacations as an assistant coach with the Pittsburgh Steelers. It had been a while since Perles had heard from Ezor, who thought his old friend might be interested in recruiting his son.

Perles agreed to check out the kid and quickly realized that Blake Ezor was big-time material. Now, as a junior, Ezor is ready to make it big.

As White's backup last year, Ezor rushed 122 times for 592 yards and three touchdowns. He averaged 4.9 yards per carry; White averaged 4.5.

"I think I'm the guy to replace Lorenzo White," the 5-foot-10, 180-pound junior said. "That's what I've worked for since the day last season ended. I think the coaches have confi-



Blake Ezor

dence in me now."

Said Perles: "If we were starting the season tomorrow, he'd be the Number 1 guy. He has earned that chance. He's got great speed, and he's a tough little guy. People are going to have to beat him out."

Such people as redshirt freshmen Corey Pryor and Scott Selzer and sophomore Hyland Hickson, who sat out last season due to Proposition 48. But Ezor is expected to shoulder the load.

"This is Blake's big move year, and he knows it," assistant coach Larry Bielat said. "This is the year he can light everybody up. He's nowhere near as big as Lorenzo, and I doubt if he can take the same beating. Still, he has excellent flat-out speed."

Enough to match White's 1,459 yards rushing last year? Ezor thinks so.

"One of my goals is to gain as many yards this year as Lorenzo did," Ezor said. "I know that sounds like a lot to ask, but I really think I can do it. All I need is the chance."

—JACK EBLING

fense will be Michael McCray, a talented junior who combined last season with Lombardi Award winner Chris Spielman and Eric Kumerow to form one of the best linebacking units in the country. John Sullivan, who sat out much of last season with a knee injury, should help McCray.

Noseguard Mike Sullivan will center a line that also includes talented tackle Mike Showalter. Free safety David Brown and cornerback Zack Dumas are the heart and soul of Ohio State's secondary.

MICHIGAN STATE

Coach: George Perles (32-24-2, 5 years).

1987 Record: 7-0-1/1st; 8-2-1 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: David Houle, OT; Todd Krumm, S; Tim Moore, LB; Mark Nichols, DT; Mike Sargent, TE; Pat Shurmur, C; Lorenzo White, TB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Willie Bouyer, FL, 6-3/200, Sr.; Bob Kula, G, 6-4/266, Jr.; Tony Mandarich, T, 6-6/303, Sr.; Bobby McAllister, QB, 6-3/193, Sr.; James Moore, FB, 6-2/206, Jr.; Andre Rison, SE, 5-11/195, Sr.; Vince Tata, G, 6-2/266, Sr. **Defense (8):** Harlon Barnett, CB, 6-0/188, Jr.; John Budde, E, 6-4/241, Sr.; Travis Davis, T, 6-3/265, Jr.; Kurt Larson, LB, 6-4/226, Sr. (injured knee in spring practice/status is questionable); John Miller, S, 6-1/194, Sr.; Derrick Reed, CB, 5-10/193, Sr.; Percy Snow, LB, 6-3/224, Jr.; Jim Szymanski, E, 6-5/262, Jr.

Key Returnees: Maurice Chamberlain, S, Sr.; Blake Ezor, TB, Jr.; Rich Gicewicz, TE, Sr.; Carlos Jenkins, LB, Soph.; John Langeloh, K, Soph.; Carlos Marino, TE, Soph.; Dave Martin, C, Sr.; Eric Moten, OG, Jr. (switched from DE); Kevin Robbins, OT, Sr.; Matt Vanderbeek, DE, Sr. (switched from LB).

Top Newcomers: Tony Briningstool, LB (RS); Chuck Bullough, LB (RS); Josh Butland, P (RS); Bob Henry, OT (Prop 48); Hyland Hickson, TB (Prop 48); Bill Johnson, DT (RS).

Schedule: Rutgers, Sept. 10; Notre Dame, Sept. 17; at Florida State, Sept. 24; Iowa, Oct. 1; at Michigan, Oct. 8; Northwestern, Oct. 15; at Illinois, Oct. 22; Ohio State, Oct. 29; at Purdue, Nov. 5; at Indiana, Nov. 12; Wisconsin, Nov. 19.

Michigan State will lobby Outland Trophy voters on behalf of offensive tackle Tony Mandarich, a Canadian citizen who has tremendous size, strength and speed.

Mandarich, a 6-6, 303-pounder, bench-presses close to 500 pounds and runs a 4.7-second 40-yard dash.

Coach George Perles thinks All-Big Ten linebacker Percy Snow is a candidate for the Butkus Award. A punishing hitter, Snow had 110 regular-season tackles and was a big reason why Michigan State's defense was the best in the nation last season against the run and second in the nation in total yards allowed.

Mandarich and Snow are the top returnees, but Perles has plenty of talent left from his Rose Bowl and Big Ten championship team.

Bobby McAllister returns as the trigger man after throwing for 1,171 yards and six touchdowns last year. Protecting McAllister will be the nucleus of a top-notch line that includes Mandarich and guards Bob Kula and Vince Tata.

Replacing consensus All-America running back Lorenzo White won't be easy. White set career Michigan State records



Bobby McAllister returns as Michigan State's trigger man after throwing for 1,171 yards and six touchdowns last year.

for rushes, yardage and touchdowns. Blake Ezor is the heir apparent.

Wide receiver Andre Rison, who played with the Spartan basketball team last season, is another honors candidate. Rison averaged 21.7 yards per catch a year ago and should set Spartan records this season for career receptions and receiving yardage. He'll also return punts.

Michigan State loses only tackle Mark Nichols, linebacker Tim Moore and safety Todd Krumm—three pro draft picks—off its heralded defense. Other headlines besides Snow are tackle Travis Davis (11 sacks), end John Budde, cornerback Harlon Barnett and strong safety John Miller, who finished second to Krumm with eight interceptions.

MINNESOTA

Coach: John Gutekunst (13-11, 2 years).

1987 Record: 3-5/T6th; 6-5 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Paul Anderson, OG; Brian Bonner, LB; Rickey Foggie, QB; Gary Hadd, DT; Chip Lohmiller, K; Doug Mueller, NG; Dan Rehtin, OT; David Williams, S; Troy Wolkow, OG.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Jason Bruce, FL, 6-1/204, Sr.; Chris Galters, SE, 6-1/170, Jr.; Dan Llimata, T, 6-6/270, Jr.; Craig Otto, TE, 6-4/209, Sr.; Roselle Rich-

ardson, FB, 6-2/222, Sr.; Darrell Thompson, TB, 6-2/220, Jr.; Brian Williams, C, 6-6/287, Sr. **Defense (6):** Doug Evans, S, 6-2/179, Jr.; Ron Goetz, LB, 6-3/230, Jr.; Terry Hrycak, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Frank Jackson, CB, 6-1/179, Soph.; Jon Leverenz, LB, 6-3/228, Jr.; Charles McCree, CB, 6-0/180, Sr.; Ross Ukelberg, T, 6-6/258, Sr.

Key Returnees: Skeeter Akre, DT, Soph. (switched from TE); Brent Herbel, P, Jr.; Alan Holt, QB, Sr.; J.J. Lennon, OG, Jr.; Les O'Hara, S, Soph.; Mac Stephens, LB, Jr.; Pat Tinglehoff, WR, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Fred Foggie, WR (Prop 48); Octavius Gould, FB (transfer/Florida); James King, S (RS); Eddie Miles, LB (RS/JC); Scott Schaffner, QB (RS); Andre Thaddies, CB (RS).

Schedule: Washington State, Sept. 10; Miami of Ohio, Sept. 17; Northern Illinois, Sept. 24; at Purdue, Oct. 1; Northwestern, Oct. 8; at Indiana, Oct. 15; Ohio State, Oct. 22; Illinois, Oct. 29; at Michigan, Nov. 5; at Wisconsin, Nov. 12; Iowa, Nov. 19.

Minnesota, which has recorded three straight 6-5 seasons, is looking to move up in the league standings.

Tailback Darrell Thompson could help accomplish that goal. Thompson rushed for 1,229 yards last season and could make a legitimate run at the Heisman Trophy. But he'll need help from an offensive line that returns only center Brian Williams and tackle Dan Llimata.

The graduation of quarterback Rickey Foggie, a four-year starter who set several school passing records, leaves a huge hole. Senior Alan Holt, who started three games last year, will compete with red-shirt freshmen Scott Schaffner and Keswic Joiner.

Thompson will have a good backfield partner with either returning fullback Roselle Richardson or Octavius Gould, a transfer from Florida.

Coach John Gutekunst will switch from a 5-2 defense to a 4-3. In the middle of things will be all-conference linebacker Jon Leverenz, the Big Ten's second-leading tackler last season with 162 stops.

Joining Leverenz on a good linebacking corps are returning starters Ron Goetz and Terry Hrycak. Cornerbacks Frank Jackson and Charles McCree and safety Doug Evans return to a secondary that will need to show a lot of improvement.

Tackle Ross Ukelberg is the lone returnee on Gutekunst's defensive line.

INDIANA

Coach: Bill Mallory (18-28-0, 4 years; 117-80-1 overall, 18 years).

1987 Record: 6-2/T2nd; 8-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Kenny Allen, WR; Brian Finney, C; Eric Hickerson, CB; Ernie Jones, WR; Eric Moore, OT; Tom Polce, FB; Van Walters, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Tim Jordan, TE, 6-3/231, Sr.; Tim Radtke, G, 6-2/263, Sr.; Dave Schnell, QB, 6-2/213, Jr.; Don Shrader, G, 6-2/278, Sr.; Chris Simons, T, 6-5/278, Sr.; Anthony Thompson, TB, 6-0/206, Jr. **Defense (9):** Willie Bates, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Dan Bauer, NG, 6-3/250, Sr.; Darren Bush, LB, 6-2/231, Sr.; Brian Dewitz, S, 6-0/190, Sr.; Marc Ferry, S, 6-3/191, Sr.; Joe Huff, LB, 6-1/220, Sr.; Doug Schlereth, T, 6-3/265, Sr.; Joe Zeigler, CB, 5-9/168, Jr.

Key Returnees: Gene Boyd, FB, Jr.; Erick

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	*CHRIS GAITERS, Minnesota	6-01	170	Junior
WR	JOHN KOLESAR, Michigan	6-00	187	Senior
WR	GREG McMURTRY, Michigan	6-03	197	Junior
TE	TIM JORDEN, Indiana	6-03	231	Senior
T	BOB KRATCH, Iowa	6-04	288	Senior
T	TONY MANDARICH, Michigan State	6-06	303	Senior
C	JOHN VITALE, Michigan	6-01	273	Senior
G	TODD NELSON, Wisconsin	6-05	285	Senior
G	DON SHRADER, Indiana	6-02	278	Senior
QB	CHUCK HARTLIEB, Iowa	6-03	205	Senior
RB	ANTHONY THOMPSON, Indiana	6-00	206	Junior
RB	DARRELL THOMPSON, Minnesota	6-02	220	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	DAVE HAIGHT, Iowa	6-03	285	Senior
DL	JOHN BUDDIE, Michigan State	6-04	241	Senior
DL	TRAVIS DAVIS, Michigan State	6-03	265	Junior
DL	MARK MESSNER, Michigan	6-03	244	Senior
DL	JOE MOTT, Iowa	6-04	245	Senior
LB	WILLIE BATES, Indiana	6-02	225	Senior
LB	JON LEVERENZ, Minnesota	6-03	228	Junior
LB	MIKE McCRAE, Ohio State	6-03	221	Senior
LB	PERCY SNOW, Michigan State	6-03	224	Junior
DB	DAVID ARNOLD, Michigan	6-03	195	Senior
DB	HARLON BARNETT, Michigan State	6-00	188	Junior
DB	MARC FOSTER, Purdue	5-11	195	Senior
DB	JOHN MILLER, Michigan State	6-01	194	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	JOHN LANGELOH, Michigan State	6-02	185	Soph.
P	BRENT HERBEL, Minnesota	5-10	181	Junior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	ANDRE RISON, Michigan State	5-11	195	Senior
WR	*EVERETT ROSS, Ohio State	5-11	180	Senior
WR	CALVIN WILLIAMS, Purdue	5-11	192	Junior
TE	MARV COOK, Iowa	6-04	243	Senior
T	MIKE HUSAR, Michigan	6-03	287	Senior
T	JOE STAYSNAK, Ohio State	6-05	282	Junior
C	JEFF UHLENHAKKE, Ohio State	6-04	256	Senior
G	MICHAEL DAMES, Michigan	6-02	268	Senior
G	BOB KULA, Michigan State	6-04	266	Junior
QB	DAVE SCHNELL, Indiana	6-02	213	Junior
RB	MARVIN ARTLEY, Wisconsin	6-01	225	Senior
RB	OCTAVIUS GOULD, Minnesota	6-00	215	Soph.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	T.J. OSMAN, Michigan	6-03	263	Soph.
DL	DON DAVEY, Wisconsin	6-05	237	Junior
DL	MORRIS GARDNER, Illinois	6-03	252	Soph.
DL	BILL HITCHCOCK, Purdue	6-06	285	Junior
DL	MIKE SHOWALTER, Ohio State	6-04	260	Junior
LB	DAN KISSLING, Wisconsin	6-02	225	Junior
LB	KURT LARSON, Michigan State	6-04	226	Senior
LB	BRAD QUAST, Iowa	6-02	248	Junior
LB	JERROL WILLIAMS, Purdue	6-05	235	Senior
DB	DAVID BROWN, Ohio State	6-00	188	Junior
DB	GLENN COBB, Illinois	6-00	204	Senior
DB	MERTON HANKS, Iowa	6-02	178	Soph.
DB	ANTHONY WRIGHT, Iowa	5-10	188	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	MIKE GILLETTE, Michigan	6-01	194	Senior
P	SHAWN MCCARTHY, Purdue	6-07	214	Junior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



McMurtry



Kratch



Haight



Davis



Bates



Snow



Foster



Miller

1987 STATISTICS

(Big Ten statistics include bowl games)

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Morris, Michigan	282	1703	14
White, Michigan State ...	357	1572	16
Thompson, Minnesota ..	224	1229	13
Thompson, Indiana	257	1014	12
Artley, Wisconsin	148	955	9
Sanders, Northwestern ..	187	778	4
Harmon, Iowa	151	715	6
Medlock, Purdue	175	634	2
Ezor, Michigan State	133	617	3
Foggie, Minnesota	121	591	6

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating	Points
Hartlieb, Iowa	334	217	156.7	
Schnell, Indiana	207	121	139.8	
McAllister, Mich. St.	139	71	130.4	
McGwire, Iowa	72	41	126.0	
Tupa, Ohio State	242	134	125.5	
Brown, Michigan	168	80	112.8	
Mohr, Illinois	212	106	111.2	
Freund, Illinois	58	30	110.1	
Foggie, Minnesota	175	83	107.9	

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Jones, Indiana	66	1265	13
Hardy, Purdue	58	723	3
Early, Iowa	63	1004	10
Usher, Illinois	43	723	4
Williams, Purdue	42	585	6
Cook, Iowa	49	803	2
Jones, Northwestern	40	668	2
Chaney, Purdue	39	276	0

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Morris, Michigan	309	1972	164.3
Jones, Indiana	92	1807	150.6
White, Michigan State ...	369	1687	140.6
Hardy, Purdue	117	1526	138.7
Usher, Illinois	98	1472	133.8
Thompson, Minnesota ..	230	1268	115.3
Jones, Northwestern	74	1219	110.8
Thompson, Indiana	283	1256	104.7

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Tupa, Ohio State	63	2963	47.0
Montgomery, Mich. St.	70	3149	45.0
Robbins, Michigan	51	2219	43.5
McCarthy, Purdue	62	2506	40.4
Cepicky, Wisconsin	57	2251	39.5

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Buford, Indiana	22	217	9.9
Hardy, Purdue	28	264	9.4
Galters, Minnesota	14	132	9.4
Krumm, Michigan State	36	322	9.0
Usher, Illinois	37	310	8.4

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Houghtlin, Iowa	30	21	1.61
Lohmiller, Minnesota	19	16	1.45
Gregoire, Wisconsin	20	16	1.45
Langeloh, Michigan State ..	25	17	1.42
Briggs, Purdue	23	13	1.20

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Usher, Illinois	15	445	29.7
Galters, Minnesota	19	443	23.3
Jones, Indiana	24	529	22.0
Workman, Ohio State	14	299	21.4
Owens, Wisconsin	23	463	20.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Krumm, Michigan State	9	129	.75
Miller, Michigan State	8	42	.67
Whitley, Northwestern	7	202	.64
Burt, Iowa	7	15	.54
White, Ohio State	5	85	.45
Dewitz, Indiana	5	63	.42

Coleman, CB, Sr.; Mike Dumas, CB, Soph.; Andre Hall, CB, Sr. (switched from S); Walt Harris, DT, Sr.; Carlos Marte, TE, Sr.; Brad Money, LB, Sr.; Jim Sams, NG, Sr.; Terry Saunders, TE, Jr.; Rob Turner, WR, Soph.; Ron Vargo, C, Jr.; Todd Walker, LB, Soph.

Top Newcomer: Eddie Thomas, WR (RS).
Schedule: At Rice, Sept. 10; Kentucky, Sept. 17; at Missouri, Sept. 24; at Northwestern, Oct. 1; Ohio State, Oct. 8; Minnesota, Oct. 15; at Michigan, Oct. 22; Iowa, Oct. 29; at Illinois, Nov. 5; Michigan State, Nov. 12; at Purdue, Nov. 19.

Indiana has made tremendous progress in four seasons, going from 0-11 in 1984 to 8-4 and a second-place tie in the league last season.

Bill Mallory, the Big Ten Coach of the Year the last two seasons, figures to have Indiana in a challenging position again.

Mallory has a 1,000-yard rusher, a 58 percent passer and 14 of his top 16 tacklers from a year ago. The team's biggest losses were receiver Ernie Jones, who caught 66 passes and was Big Ten Player of the Year, and linebacker Van Waiters.

Junior tailback Anthony Thompson turned in a 1,014-yard season in '87 despite knee problems. The top two fullbacks are gone, but Gene Boyd moves in with a good blocking reputation.

The offensive line strengths are at guard, with Don Shrader and Tim Radtke both entering their fourth year as starters.

Junior Dave Schnell started nine games at quarterback, completing 58.5 percent of his passes for 1,707 yards and 13 touchdowns. His top target will be tight end Tim Jorden (31 catches).

The defensive prospects include 15 players with starting experience. Linebacker Willie Bates and Joe Huff, tackle Doug Schlereth, cornerback Joe Zeigler and free safety Brian Dewitz all started 10 games or more a year ago.

ILLINOIS

Coach: John Mackovic (first year at Illinois; 13-20 overall, 3 years).

1987 Record: 2-5-1/8th; 3-7-1 overall.

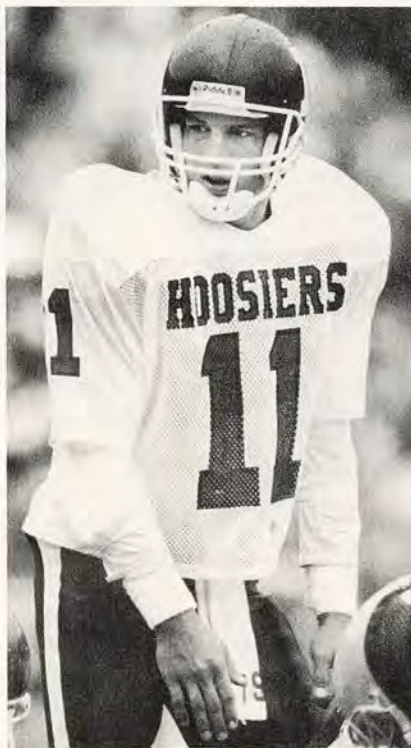
Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Jim Blondell, DT; Scott Davis, DE; Bobby Dawson, S; Areal Doolittle, OT; Sam Ellsworth, LB; Gabe de la Garza, LB; Dave Harbour, C; Chad Little, P; Jeff Markland, FB; Mike Piel, DE; Mike Scully, OG; Keith Taylor, CB; Darryl Usher, WR; Anthony Williams, TE.

Starters Returning: Offense (3): Keith Jones, RB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Mark McGowan, G, 6-2/264, Sr.; Scott Mohr, QB, 6-3/212, Sr. **Defense (5):** Romero Brice, LB, 6-7/207, Soph.; Glenn Cobb, S, 6-0/204, Sr.; Morris Gardner, NT, 6-3/252, Soph.; Steve Glasson, LB, 6-3/233, Jr.; Chris Green, CB, 5-11/180, Soph.

Key Returnees: Brian Burchfield, DE, Soph. (missed spring/academics); Stan Fit, WR, Sr.; Peter Freund, QB, Jr.; Kurt Gregus, LB, Jr.; Jason Guard, LB, Jr.; Brad James, OT, Soph.; Stephen Jordan, CB, Sr.; Lynn McClellan, RB, Sr.; Bryan McGrone, LB, Soph.; Brian Menkhausen, TE, Jr.; Ken Thomas, RB, Sr.; Greg Turner, FB, Sr.; John Wachter, LB, Soph. (RS/leg); Steve Williams, WR, Jr. (RS).

Top Newcomers: Mike Bellamy, WR (RS/JC); Jeff George, QB (transfer/Purdue); Jon Gustafsson, OL (RS/medical); Fred Hartley,



Indiana quarterback Dave Schnell started nine games at quarterback last year, completing 58.5 percent of his passes for 1,707 yards and 13 touchdowns.

TE (Prop 48; RS/leg); Gus Palma, WR (Prop 48); Elbert Turner, WR (Prop 48); Brian Williams, LB (JC).

Schedule: Washington State, Sept. 3; at Arizona State, Sept. 10; Utah, Sept. 17; at Ohio State, Oct. 1; Purdue, Oct. 8; at Wisconsin, Oct. 15; Michigan State, Oct. 22; at Minnesota, Oct. 29; Indiana, Nov. 5; at Michigan, Nov. 12; Northwestern, Nov. 19.

Illinois was a strong defensive team a year ago while struggling offensively.

The good news for Coach John Mackovic is that transfer quarterback Jeff George is eligible. The former Purdue recruit was impressive in the Illini's spring game, completing 18 of 24 passes for 237 yards and at one point hit 14 of 15 attempts.

Scott Mohr, Illinois' top passer last year, and Peter Freund did most of the quarterbacking a year ago and both return. Brian Menkhausen, a backup signal-caller, will try his luck at tight end.

With only two offensive starters and four on defense returning from a 3-7-1 season, progress could be slow.

Glenn Cobb, who led the Illini with 120 tackles, and Chris Green will anchor what should be a good secondary. The defensive line will have to be rebuilt around solid nose tackle Morris Gardner, and the linebacking corps is questionable at best.

PURDUE

Coach: Fred Akers (3-7-1, 1 year; 99-51-3 overall, 13 years).

1987 Record: 3-5/16th; 3-7-1 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Jonathan Briggs, K; Klieh Brown, OG; Mike Connors, OT; Cris Dishman, CB; Art DuBoise, LB; Anthony Hardy, SE; Chris Keevers, DT; James Medlock, FB; Jim Richmond, OT; Anthony Rose, OG; Brad Schumacher, TE; Fred Strickland, LB; Tony Visco, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Bruce Crites, C, 6-5/255, Sr.; Shawn McCarthy, QB/P, 6-7/214, Jr.; Darren Myles, RB, 5-8/183, Sr.; Calvin Williams, FL, 5-11/192, Jr. **Defense (6):** Scott Conover, DE, 6-4/243, Soph.; Marc Foster, S, 5-11/195, Sr.; Derrick Kelson, CB, 6-0/182, Jr. (switched from S); Ken Kushner, T, 6-5/272, Jr.; Steve Jackson, CB, 5-10/175, Soph.; Jerrol Williams, LB, 6-5/235, Sr.

Key Returnees: Ronnie Beeks, S, Sr. (RS/academics); Bruce Brineman, OT, Jr.; Brian Dapp, OG, Jr.; Bill Hitchcock, DT, Jr. (missed seven games/knee); Donzel Leggett, DE, Soph.; Mark Mascheck, QB, Soph.; Curtis McManus, SE, Jr. (switched from CB); Todd Moore, SE, Soph.; Scott Nelson, FB, Sr.; Jarrett Scales, TB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Reggie Broussard, S (RS); Teko Johnson, OT (JC); Terry Johnson, S (Prop 48); Frank Kmet, DE; Bryan Madden, DT; Tom McNeil, LB (JC); Larry Sullivan, K (RS); Larry Taylor, DT (JC); Darrin Trieb, LB (transfer/Iowa State).

Schedule: Washington, Sept. 10; Ohio University, Sept. 17; at Notre Dame, Sept. 24; Minnesota, Oct. 1; at Illinois, Oct. 8; at Ohio State, Oct. 15; Iowa, Oct. 22; at Wisconsin, Oct. 29; Michigan State, Nov. 5; at Northwestern, Nov. 12; Indiana, Nov. 19.

Second-year Coach Fred Akers doesn't have an abundance of experience, so newcomers will need to come through if the Boilermakers are to improve.

Shawn McCarthy, who started the final five games last year, will be pressed by Mark Mascheck for the quarterback duties. The 6-7 McCarthy also punted for a 40.4-yard average last year, best among the Big Ten's returning punters.

Darren Myles returns in the backfield and Calvin Williams at flanker. Center Bruce Crites is the only offensive lineman who has started more than five times.

The secondary should be Purdue's strength. Free safety Marc Foster made 130 tackles last year. Strong safety Derrick Kelson and cornerback Steve Jackson also are back, and Ronnie Beeks returns after a redshirt season.

Outside linebacker Jerrol Williams and end Scott Conover are among the top returning defenders. Darrin Trieb, a transfer from Iowa State, figures to step in at middle linebacker.

WISCONSIN

Coach: Don Morton (3-8, 1 year; 73-32 overall, 9 years).

1987 Record: 1-7/10th; 3-8 overall.

Offense: Veer. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Scott Cepicky, P; Glenn Derby, OG; Todd Gregoire, K; Paul Gruber, OT; Rodney Lossow, C; Steve Rux, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Brian Anderson, TE, 6-5/235, Sr.; Marvin Arley, RB, 6-1/225, Sr.; Scott Bestor, WR, 6-0/180, Sr.; David Burks, WR, 6-0/185, Sr.; Louis Curtis, RB, 5-9/175, Soph.; Tony Lowery, QB, 6-3/175, Soph. (missed spring practice/knee); Todd Nelson, G, 6-5/285, Sr.

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Bill Mallory, Indiana; John Gutekunst, Minnesota; Francis Peay, Northwestern.

Mallory has rejuvenated the Hoosiers' football program. Gutekunst is building a Rose Bowl contender. Peay will find himself a pro position in the near future.

Best coach: Bo Schembechler, Michigan.

Schembechler's teams never quit, are always disciplined and they win. He'll rank among the game's all-time greats.

Best programs: Michigan, Iowa, Ohio State, Michigan State.

The Wolverines' program ranks with the best nationally. The Hawkeyes have recently joined the elite. The Buckeyes will regain their status under Cooper. George Perles has the Spartans on the verge of entering the select circle.

Worst program: Northwestern.

Programs on the rise: Indiana, Minnesota, Purdue.

Program on the decline: Illinois.

Most underrated players: Bobby Abrams, LB, Michigan; Bill Anderson, C, Iowa; Marvin Artley, RB, Wisconsin; Harlon Barnett, CB, Michigan State; Wil-



Underrated: Indiana Coach Bill Mallory

lie Bates, LB, Indiana; Michael Dames, OG, Michigan; Chris Gaiters, SE, Minnesota; Ron Goetz, LB, Minnesota; Jason Guard, LB, Illinois; Tim Jorden, TE, Indiana; Bob Kula, OG, Michigan State; Joe Mott, DE, Iowa; Todd Nelson, OG, Wisconsin; Mike Sullivan, MG, Ohio State; Ross Ukkelberg, DT, Minnesota; Brian Williams, C, Minnesota; Anthony Wright, CB, Iowa.

Most overrated players: Keith Jones, RB, Illinois; Andre Rison, WR, Michigan State.

Stars on the horizon: Mike Bellamy,

WR, Illinois; Tony Boles, TB, Michigan; Jarrod Bunch, FB, Michigan; Greg Frey, QB, Ohio State; Jeff George, QB, Illinois; Octavius Gould, RB, Minnesota; Marc Hicks, TB, Ohio State; Carlos Jenkins, LB, Michigan State; John Kacherski, LB, Ohio State; T.J. Osman, MG/DT, Michigan; Gus Palma, WR, Illinois; Scott Schaffner, QB, Minnesota; Duer Sharp, LB, Wisconsin; Marc Spencer, LB, Michigan; Mac Stephens, LB, Minnesota; Tony Stewart, RB, Iowa; Mike Teeter, MG, Michigan; Darrin Trieb, LB, Purdue; Elbert Turner, WR, Illinois; Rob Turner, WR, Indiana; Steve Williams, WR, Illinois.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Minnesota, Indiana, Iowa; receivers—Michigan, Illinois, Michigan State; offensive linemen—Michigan, Ohio State, Iowa; defensive linemen—Michigan, Iowa, Michigan State; linebackers—Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana; defensive backfield—Michigan State, Iowa, Ohio State.

Conference snake pits: Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

The Illini remain tough in Champaign. Fry has opponents fearing their trip to Iowa City. The Hawkeyes' and Badgers' fans are the best in the conference.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Defense (11): John Banaszak, NG, 6-5/251, Sr.; Dan Batsch, LB, 6-5/225, Jr.; Don Davey, T, 6-5/237, Jr.; Malvin Hunter, LB, 6-3/220, Soph.; Dan Kissling, LB, 6-2/225, Jr.; Brad Mayo, CB, 5-9/170, Sr.; Pete Nowka, S, 6-1/195, Sr.; Greg Thomas, S, 6-2/183, Jr.; Chad VandeZande, T, 6-3/265, Sr.; LaMarr White, CB, 5-9/171, Jr.; David Wings, LB, 6-1/235, Sr.

Key Returnees: Jim Basten, C, Jr.; Jerry Butler, C, Sr.; Victor Fortino, LB, Sr.; Leon Johnson, DT, Sr.; Fred Owens, RB, Jr.; Paul Partington, LB, Sr.; Keith Peterson, OT, Sr. (RS); Brady Pierce, OT, Jr.; Nick Polczynski, OT, Jr.; Steve Vinci, RB, Sr.; Bill Williams, WR, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Rafael Robinson, S (RS); Pete Underwood, LB (RS); John L. Williams, LB (RS).

Schedule: Western Michigan, Sept. 3; Northwestern Illinois, Sept. 17; at Miami (Fla.), Sept. 24; Michigan, Oct. 1; at Iowa, Oct. 8; Illinois, Oct. 15; at Northwestern, Oct. 22; Purdue, Oct. 29; at Ohio State, Nov. 5; Minnesota, Nov. 12; at Michigan State, Nov. 19.

For Don Morton, another second-year Big Ten coach, the good news is that all 11 starters return from his 1987 defense. The bad news is that the unit ranked ninth among conference teams in total defense.

Linebacker David Wings had a solid junior season, leading the team with 134 tackles. Free safety Greg Thomas had 105 stops and will be joined in the secondary by cornerbacks Brad Mayo and LaMarr White.

Morton made a couple of changes in the defensive line, switching noseguard Chad VandeZande and tackle John Banaszak and backup defensive tackle Craig

Hudson and tight end Daniel Howell.

Sophomore Tony Lowery missed spring drills with an ailing knee but will be ready to lead the Wisconsin offense. With Lowery, who became the starting quarterback at midseason, and backup Otis Flowers, Morton will utilize more drop-back passing plays, although the veer still will be emphasized.

Another leader among seven returning offensive starters is running back Marvin Artley, a senior who rushed for 955 yards a year ago. But Artley could have problems if Morton can't rebuild an offensive line that lost all-conference tackle Paul Gruber and three other starters. The top returnee is 285-pound guard Todd Nelson.

NORTHWESTERN

Coach: Francis Peay (6-15-1, 2 years).

1987 Record: 2-6/9th; 2-8-1 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Alan Brown, LB; Bob Bucaro, LB; Bob Driscoll, TE; Jeff Freeman, C; Mike Greenfield, QB; Steve Hofmann, OG; George Jones, WR; Tom Kaukialo, LB; Rich Myers, S; Doug Pennington, DT; Kevin Smith, OT; Jeff Stainton, OG; Brett Whitley, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Mike Baum, T, 6-5/260, Sr.; Randy McClellan, FL, 6-1/180, Sr.; Byron Sanders, HB, 5-10/186, Sr.; Curtis Spears, FB, 6-0/221, Sr. **Defense (5):** Darryl Ashmore, T, 6-6/250, Soph.; Kyle Palmer, S, 6-1/181, Sr.; Kevin Peterson, E, 6-4/220, Sr.; Terry Thomas, CB, 5-11/170, Soph.; Andre Walker, E, 6-5/260, Sr.

Key Returnees: Ira Adler, K, Jr.; Greg Bradshaw, QB, Sr.; Dirk Disper, OG, Sr.; Bob

Griswold, TE, Sr.; Marcus Lang, WR, Sr.; Doug Martin, DE, Jr. (RS/foot); Pat New, WR, Soph.; Jeff Robinson, CB, Sr.; John Ruden, LB, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Brett Buckner, LB (JC); Thor Christianson, RB (JC); Dwight James, CB (RS); Kurt Minko, C (JC); Steve Rosholt, FB (JC); Robby Walton, DB (JC).

Schedule: Duke, Sept. 3; at Air Force, Sept. 17; at Army, Sept. 24; Indiana, Oct. 1; at Minnesota, Oct. 8; at Michigan State, Oct. 15; Wisconsin, Oct. 22; Michigan, Oct. 29; at Iowa, Nov. 5; Purdue, Nov. 12; at Illinois, Nov. 19.

Northwestern Coach Francis Peay is preaching patience, which is what it will take with only nine starters returning from last year's 2-8-1 squad.

"The emphasis this year will be on our system," Peay said. "We'll have to be patient and take a thumping here and there."

Gone is quarterback Mike Greenfield, the Wildcats' all-time leader in total offense, and Peay will ask fifth-year senior Greg Bradshaw to fill the void.

Senior tailback Byron Sanders should be Northwestern's top offensive weapon. Despite being slowed much of the season by bruised ribs, Sanders still rushed for 778 yards and turned in an NCAA single-game best of 295 yards against Minnesota.

But the offensive line must be rebuilt. Tackle Michael Baum is the only returning starter. Conversely, the defensive line should be a strength. Ends Kevin Peterson and Andre Walker and tackle Darryl Ashmore all are returning starters. ■

No question, Kent State can win MAC jackpot

By DAVE HACKENBERG
Toledo Blade

Close your eyes and imagine Vanna White. ... Oops, wrong show. Try Alex Trebek. Mustache, three-piece suit. You know, he gives the answers, you come up with the questions. Let's call it Mid-American Conference Jeopardy. Here's how it goes:

A: In 37 years of membership, this team has averaged 2.5 league wins per season, has won just one title and has appeared in only two postseason bowl games, one of them the critically acclaimed 1954 Refrigerator Bowl.

Q: What is Kent State?

A: This team has the player who beat out Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown, and everybody else, as the nation's leader in all-purpose yardage last season.

Q: What is Kent State?

A: This team, unlike most in the league, has a new coach whose name is recognized nationally.

Q: What is Kent State?

A: After two straight second-place finishes, this team is ready to win it all.

Q: What is Kent State?

See, it wasn't all that tough. And with Dick Crum handling the controls and Eric Wilkerson handling the ball, it might not be all that tough for the Golden Flashes to settle atop the MAC standings in 1988.

But ...

A: This team not only won its first-ever league title a year ago and stunned San Jose State in the California Bowl, but also has a solid program that should allow it to stay in the hunt.

Q: What is Eastern Michigan?

A: This team has finished either first or second for six straight years.

Q: What is Bowling Green State?

A: This team had a disappointing 1987 season but closed by outgaining Miami (Fla.), 307-294, and losing by just 10 points to the eventual national champion.

A: What is Toledo?

Q: This team, which returns one of the nation's most promising quarterbacks in Tony Kimbrough, logged 2,899 passing yards last year.

A: What is Western Michigan?

And so it goes, which is why being picked to win this balanced conference can place a team in serious jeopardy.

KENT STATE

Coach: Dick Crum (first year at Kent State; 106-51-4 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 5-3/T2nd; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Terry Crowley, NG; Eric Dye, SE; Robert Golden, FB; Calvin Guillory, TE; Jim Klohn, OG; Tim Phillips, QB; Tony Stephens, LB; Rick Taute, LB; Tim Viscuso, LB.

Starters Returning: **Offense (6):** Chip Curtis, C, 6-2/250, Sr.; Brian Naylor, T, 6-3/250, Sr.; Fermin Olivera, FL, 5-11/186, Sr.; Mike

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. KENT STATE

Crum's Golden Flashes win a close race in the parity-laden MAC.

2. BOWLING GREEN STATE

Year in and year out, the Falcons have the best program in the conference.

3. BALL STATE

The Cardinals are capable of making a run for the conference title.

4. CENTRAL MICHIGAN

The Chippewas want redemption following a disappointing '87 season.

5. TOLEDO

Look for the Rockets to remain in contention till the end.

6. WESTERN MICHIGAN

Broncos rate as a sleeper pick after showing marked improvement in '87.

7. MIAMI (O.)

Where is Woody, Ara or Bo? Once-proud Redskins are strictly second division.

8. EASTERN MICHIGAN

Harkema deserves thanks for reviving a program on the brink of termination.

9. OHIO UNIVERSITY

Imagining your worst nightmare is the only way to relate to Bobcat fans.

Paschall, T, 6-4/240, Sr.; Ben Stratton, G, 6-4/270, Jr.; Eric Wilkerson, TB, 5-9/180, Sr. **Defense (7):** J.D. Barnes, S, 6-1/179, Soph.; Ed Greitzer, T, 6-3/232, Jr.; Paul Haynes, S, 6-0/179, Soph.; Jamie Howell, CB, 6-1/185, Sr.; Mike Laraway, LB, 6-2/198, Sr.; Andy Logan, CB, 6-0/189, Sr.; Bert Weidner, T, 6-3/261, Sr.

Key Returnees: Ray Carroscia, TB, Jr.; John Crea, C, Jr.; Leroy Edmonds, TB, Soph.; Ray Kangas, DT, Sr.; Todd Kinder, WR, Sr.; John Massimiani, LB, Jr.; Andre Palmer, WR, Jr.; Van Shelton, TB, Jr.; Larry Steinberg, K, Jr.; Tony Wells, S, Sr.; Patrick Young, QB, Soph. (RS/hip).

Top Newcomers: Doug Agnew, OL; Brian Amisson, DB; John Lorentz, OL; Nick Uzelac, LB.

Schedule: Youngstown State, Sept. 3; Akron, Sept. 10; at Eastern Michigan, Sept. 17; at Kentucky, Sept. 24; at Central Michigan, Oct. 1; Ball State, Oct. 8; at Western Michigan, Oct. 15; Ohio University, Oct. 22; at Toledo, Oct. 29; Bowling Green State, Nov. 5; at Miami of Ohio, Nov. 12.

Before his death, Dick Scesniak pointed Kent State's sorry football program in the right direction. Before answering the call from Kansas, Glen Mason spent two years pushing the Golden Flashes toward the top. Now, Dick Crum is expected to whip Kent State home first when this year's nine-team field crosses the football finish line.

Yes, that Dick Crum, late of North Carolina, where 72 wins in 10 seasons wasn't enough. So Crum has returned to his roots, the MAC, where he first coached on the collegiate level. After serving as an assistant to Bill Mallory at Miami of Ohio in the early 1970s, Crum became head

coach when Mallory went to Colorado in 1974.

In four years, Crum's Redskins won three conference titles and impressed observers with their ability to play with anybody. Shortly after Crum headed for the greener grass of the Atlantic Coast Conference in 1978, Mallory was back in the MAC, having been ousted at Colorado in a fashion not unlike what Crum encountered last year at North Carolina.

"A step back?" said Mallory, repeating the question. "I don't think you even let that enter your mind. I wasn't on any ego trip and neither is Dick."

"When you come from the Mid-Am and when you know what the conference is all about, you don't even consider it as a step back. There's no frustration; you're just very happy to be there."

Mallory went from Colorado to Northern Illinois and won a championship in 1983 when that school was a member of the MAC. He's now head coach at Indiana.

Crum could have gone to the sideline and taken it easy for a while after receiving a lucrative settlement in return for his walking away from a long-term contract.

"I could have stayed out, but I enjoy coaching and that's why I'm here," Crum said. "That's why I got into this business, to coach."

"I've been trying to get people to understand that the reasons I'm at Kent aren't that complicated. I just want to coach."

And win.

"Coach Crum came in and said we have only one goal—winning the MAC championship," said tailback Eric Wilkerson, the league's Player of the Year last season as a junior. That goal could well be realized because of Wilkerson, the nation's leader in all-purpose yardage a year ago, and a healthy Pat Young.

Young, a shifty option quarterback who ran and passed for more than 1,500 yards two seasons ago as a freshman, played all of 20 minutes in last year's opener before suffering a season-ending hip injury. Still, with Wilkerson racking up 2,074 all-purpose yards—1,221 rushing, 269 receiving, and 584 on kick returns—the Flashes were able to post a 7-4 overall record, the team's best in a dozen years.

"Coach Scesniak got us believing in ourselves and Coach Mason made us better and better," Wilkerson said. "He pushed us to our limit and instilled so much pride that when Pat got hurt last year, our performance didn't decline."

"I don't think the coaching change will present any problems because the attitude Coach Mason instilled in us is still there. We've been so close, now we're ready for a championship."

Wilkerson has an established and talented backup in sophomore Leroy Edmonds, but Crum is searching for support at quarterback and at tight end. The offensive line, behind all-conference center

Continued

Chip Curtis, is formidable.

The defense took some heavy losses, especially at linebacker, but cornerback Jamie Howell heads a secondary that returns intact.

The Flashes' defensive front wall will focus on returning tackles Bert Weidner and Ed Greitzer. Mike Laraway is the lone returning linebacker.

BOWLING GREEN STATE

Coach: Moe Ankney (10-12, 2 years).

1987 Record: 5-3/T2nd; 5-6 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Joe Foley, DE; John Hunter, LB; Greg Johnson, NT; Mike Joyce, CB; Eric Lundgren, DG; Erik Lundgren, LB; Mike Otten, FB; Ken Schriener, C; Greg Studrawa, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Tom Addie, G, 6-3/263, Jr.; Rich Dackin, QB, 6-2/196, Jr.; Shawn Daniels, FB, 5-11/237, Sr.; David Haynes, G, 6-3/249, Sr.; Ron Heard, FL, 5-10/176, Jr.; Kyle Hockman, TE, 6-3/216, Jr.; Reggie Thornton, SE, 5-11/170, Jr. **Defense (6):** Derrick Carr, T, 6-5/253, Jr.; Charles Dotson, LB, 6-0/178, Soph.; Mike Holmes, S, 6-0/178, Jr.; Kyle Kramer, S, 6-3/185, Sr.; Tony McCorvey, CB, 5-10/169, Sr.; Ray Southard, CB, 5-9/185, Jr.

Key Returnees: Scott Beckley, DB/C, Sr.; Mark Bongers, FL, Sr.; Duane Crenshaw, LB, Soph.; Toy Eason, LB, Soph.; Charles Edger-ton, RB, Jr.; Pat Jackson, TE, Soph.; Larry Lambright, LB, Jr.; Dal McDonald, LB, Soph.; Ken Rankin, WR, Sr. (RS/knee); Andre Smith, TB, Soph.; Eric Smith, QB, Sr.; Doug Van Fossen, LB, Soph.; Jason Zeller, K, Jr. **Top Newcomers:** Scott Lindsey, FB (RS); Cris Shale, P (transfer/Tennessee); Terry Wilson, QB (RS); Richard Young, OL (JC).

Schedule: At West Virginia, Sept. 3; Ball State, Sept. 10; at Texas Christian, Sept. 17; at Toledo, Sept. 24; at Western Michigan, Oct. 1; Ohio University, Oct. 8; at Central Michigan, Oct. 15; Youngstown State, Oct. 22; Miami of Ohio, Oct. 29; at Kent State, Nov. 5; Eastern Michigan, Nov. 12.

A few minutes with Bowling Green State Coach Moe Ankney would make the most optimistic Falcon fan scratch his head in wonder.

Some observations:

On his offensive line: "We'll be young and inexperienced. Two fifth-year seniors decided not to come back, so we have to rebuild, and I think it will be a struggle."

On his defensive front: "There are definitely a lot of holes and not much experience."

On his running game, which averaged 99 yards per game last season: "We've gotta find a tailback. There aren't any new faces. We just have to take the ones we have and find some magic."

On four departed standout defensive players, including premier outside linebacker John Hunter and lineman Joe Foley: "Don't remind me."

So why are the Falcons, who have finished either first or second in the MAC for six straight years, even bothering to suit up in 1988? Well, even Ankney would have to admit that there are several good reasons.

Such as junior quarterback Rich Dackin, who has fashioned some impressive numbers; a fine stable of receivers head-

ed by Reggie Thornton and Ron Heard; a top-notch free safety in Kyle Kramer, who heads a veteran secondary; a 237-pound bull of a fullback named Shawn Daniels, and a transfer from Tennessee, Cris Shale, who might be the answer to Bowling Green's woeful punting game.

"Our obvious strength has to be the passing game," Ankney said. "They're (the skill people) good and we want to see them do nothing but get better. On defense, Kramer is top dog, just an outstanding player."

BALL STATE

Coach: Paul Schudel (14-19-0, 3 years).

1987 Record: 3-5/8th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Deon Chester, SE; John Cunningham, OT; Ron Duncan, TE; Craig Kantner, OG; Wade Kosakowski, QB; Avis Hines, DE; Troy Schultz, DT; Stanford Young, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Ted Ashburn, C, 6-2/255, Jr.; Brennen Baker, FB, 5-11/230, Sr.; Dewane Brawner, T, 6-3/299, Jr.; Sean Jones, FL, 5-10/185, Sr.; Brian Outlaw, G, 5-11/290, Sr.; Bernie Parmalee, TB, 6-1/180, Soph. **Defense (8):** Mose Carter, NG, 6-1/245, Sr.; Todd Finnell, CB, 5-10/165, Sr.; Greg Garnica, LB, 6-0/220, Jr.; David Haugh, S, 6-1/195, Jr.; Dave Malinski, T, 6-2/250, Sr.; Greg Shackelford, E, 5-11/220, Sr.; Tim Walton, LB, 6-0/230, Sr.; Darryl Wesley, S, 6-0/190, Sr.

Key Returnees: Andre Barnett, S, Jr.; Andy Engeman, OT, Sr.; Herb Jackson, SE, Soph.; Jess Neal, S, Sr.; Steve Paris, DT, Jr.; Shawon Respress, DE, Sr.; David Riley, QB, Jr.; Eugene Riley, TE, Jr.; Mark Stevens, TB, Sr.; Adam Wilson, TB, Jr.; Frank Wilson, K/P, Soph.; Derrick Westfield, DE, Sr.; Ralph Wize, DT, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Rod Christner, OG (JC); Todd Decker, SE (JC); Steve Esp, OT (transfer/Utah); Walter Sullivan, DB (JC); Bret Witkowski, TE (transfer/Air Force).

Schedule: Toledo, Sept. 3; at Bowling Green State, Sept. 10; Massachusetts, Sept. 17; Miami of Ohio, Oct. 1; at Kent State, Oct. 8; Eastern Michigan, Oct. 15; at Central Michigan, Oct. 22; at Northern Illinois, Oct. 29; Western Michigan, Nov. 5; at Ohio U., Nov. 12; Indiana State (at Indianapolis), Nov. 17.

Surely, this *would have been* the year Wade Kosakowski *would have led* Ball State to the promised land.

Two seasons ago, the Cardinals were 6-2 and tied for the league lead when Kosakowski was hurt. Ball State did not win a game the rest of the way. In 1987, he was knocked out by a serious shoulder injury.

So, given another year of eligibility, 1988 would be the year. Right? Not so, said the gifted quarterback, who decided that enough is enough and called it a career.

Even without their brightest star, the Cardinals figure to be one of the teams to beat, thanks largely to tailback Bernie Parmalee, a 1,064-yard rusher last season, and linebacker Greg Garnica. Parmalee, who scored 15 touchdowns, was the league's Freshman of the Year while Garnica, a junior linebacker, was in on an average of 17.1 tackles per game and was voted the MAC's top defensive player.

"I look back two years to when we lost the last three games and I guess it was a turning point in the wrong direction," Garnica said. "It set us back last year, too.

Who'll Fill Patton's Shoes?



Eastern Michigan Coach Jim Harkema has a pretty simple rule by which he determines whether his program is capable of filling the holes created by departed standouts.

"When we feel we have a need that can't be filled, we go to the junior colleges," Harkema said. "We didn't have to do that."

The position in question is tailback, where Gary Patton departed after last season as the school's top career rusher with 3,367 yards. As a senior, Patton rushed for 1,112 yards and sparked the Hurons to a 9-2 record, their first Mid-American Conference championship and a victory over San Jose State in the California Bowl. He led the Hurons in rushing four straight years.

"That's the past," Harkema said, "and the future is that we'll keep on winning. . . . We're not in bad shape by any means."

Patton's successor is no secret. Bob Foster, a 5-foot-9, 185-pound junior, has career totals of 590 yards rushing and 12 touchdowns in spot duty the last two

seasons.

"I think I can step in and be just as successful," Foster said. "I'm anxious to prove what I can do. Gary was a little different type back than I am. He had a little more finesse in the open field, a little more speed. My objective is to work hard to become just as good in those areas."

Harkema believes Foster already has the edge on Patton in a couple of categories.

"Bobby's a better power runner and is quicker through the hole," Harkema said. ". . .

I think he'll be as good as anybody in the conference."

Eastern Michigan, once the league doormat, reached the top last season, and Harkema said the ability to replace a star such as Patton with another potential star already in the program signals continued success.

"When you get a program going in full gear," Harkema said, "ideally you will always have a guy ready to go. . . . It indicates the ideal cycle."

—DAVE HACKENBERG



Bob Foster

But we've had a lot of meetings, and I think everybody on this team knows what it's going to take to be champion.

"We can't stray off and do a lot of second-guessing. That hurt us last year when things went bad. We have to have the right attitude and we have to have team unity. There's no question we have the talent."

With eight defensive starters returning, Coach Paul Schudel thinks that improvement is imminent.

"Our defense will be better," he said. "The coaches and players are all determined that will be the case. Our defense let games get away from us last year and that's not our style."

Ball State is strong up the middle with Mose Carter at nose tackle and Garnica and Tim Walton as the inside linebackers. Senior safety Darryl Wesley keys the secondary.

Schudel must patch an offensive line that lost two starters and will be asked to open holes for the elusive Parmalee, who, in the words of Ohio Coach Cleve Bryant, is "something sort of special."

David Riley, a junior who was 2-0 when subbing for Kosakowski last year, is the heir apparent at quarterback.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN

Coach: Herb Deromedi (74-30-3, 10 years).
1987 Record: 3-4-1/T6th; 5-5-1 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Marcelle Carruthers, QB; Joe Churches, OT; Mike Dillon, OG; Joe Kellogg, S; Jon Miller, DT; Mike Ryan, LB; Bob Stebbins, TE; Chris Wise, LB; Howard Young, CB; Phil Zielinski, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Jack Carruthers, SE, 6-1/190, Jr.; John Hood, TB, 6-0/190, Jr.; Ralph Newland, C, 6-3/255, Jr.; Todd Nowak, FB, 6-2/230, Jr.; Chuck Pellegrini, G, 6-5/280, Sr.; Eric Reed, SB, 5-10/175, Sr.; Brian Smallbone, T, 6-6/280, Sr. **Defense (5):** Scott Alferink, NG, 6-1/230, Sr.; Dane Deletka, T, 6-3/255, Jr.; George Ricumstrict, LB, 6-0/235, Sr.; Durand Robertson, S, 6-1/195, Sr.; James Williams, CB, 5-10/185, Soph.

Key Returnees: Dave Basirico, G, Jr.; Rich Curtiss, LB, Soph.; Mark Dennis, LB, Jr.; Mark Hopkins, TE, Jr.; David Johnson, S, Soph.; Scott Lamphere, LB, Soph.; Randy Levels, QB, Jr.; Gino Marchetti, S, Soph.; Kevin Nicholl, K, Jr.; Don Riley, TB, Jr.; Joe Sklenar, LB, Jr.; Ken Strong, CB, Soph.; J.J. Wierenga, DT, Soph.; Todd Winters, P, Jr.

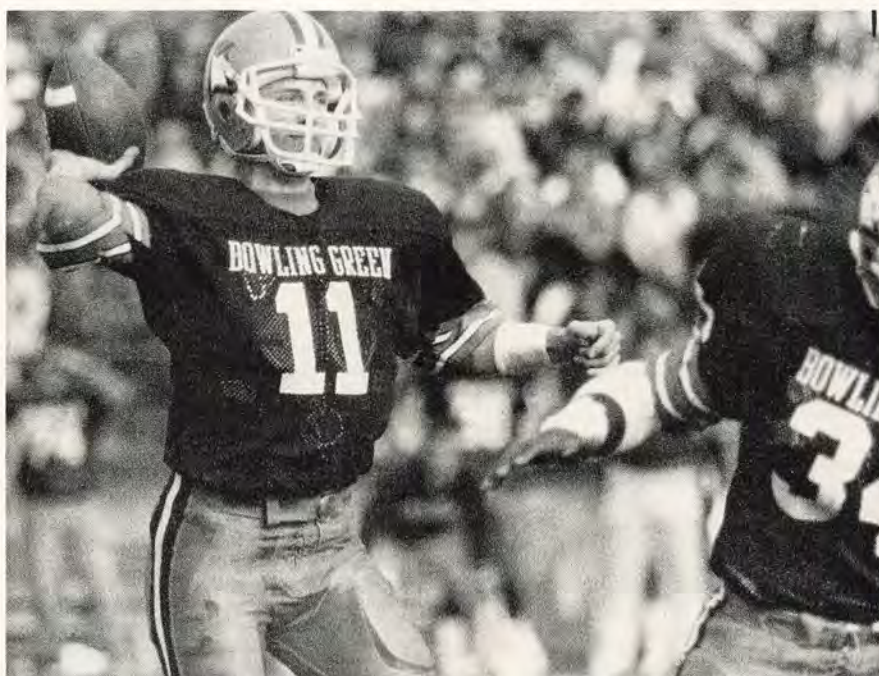
Top Newcomers: Jeff Bender, QB (RS); John Keenoy, OT (transfer/Michigan State).

Schedule: At Kentucky, Sept. 3; at Akron, Sept. 17; Montana State, Sept. 24; Kent State, Oct. 1; at Eastern Michigan, Oct. 8; Bowling Green State, Oct. 15; Ball State, Oct. 22; at Western Michigan, Oct. 29; Ohio University, Nov. 5; at Toledo, Nov. 12; at Miami of Ohio, Nov. 19.

Central Michigan quarterback Randy Levels saw extensive action last season but was hampered during spring ball by arthroscopic surgery and saw redshirt freshman Jeff Bender move to the head of the class.

"Before it's over, I expect it to be a good situation," Coach Herb Deromedi said.

Of course, Deromedi knows that opposing passing games might be more of a key to the Chippewas' success than his own. Last year, while finishing at .500 for the



Bowling Green State's strength is its passing game, thanks in large part to quarterback Rich Dackin.

second straight season, Central Michigan's defense was touched for 2,377 yards through the air.

"We were close to being a very solid football team, but we gave up too many yards passing and too many big plays late in games," Deromedi said. "The key area for us now is the secondary, and the tough part is that we have to get it done with young players. We do like their makeup and physical abilities."

Durand Robertson is a fifth-year safety who will provide experience in an otherwise young secondary.

Deromedi hopes to ease that problem with a strong pass rush keyed by nose-guard Scott Alferink, tackle Dave Deletka and linebacker George Ricumstrict.

The offense is a veteran cast featuring guard Chuck Pellegrini and tailback John Hood. Hood, a 190-pound junior, returns after rushing for 1,121 yards and compiling 497 more on kick returns.

Joining Pellegrini on a veteran offensive line will be tackle Brian Smallbone and center Ralph Newland. Fullback Todd Newak returns to help open holes for Hood.

TOLEDO

Coach: Dan Simrell (37-28-2, 6 years).
1987 Record: 3-4-1/T6th; 3-7-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Bill Bergan, QB; Pat Delaney, S; Keith Dunbar, DE; Brian Gabel, DT; Steve Huffman, LB; Eric Hutchinson, WR; Jim Marquard, LB; Paul Sandor, DT; Bob Wasczenski, FL.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Bill Blazek, T, 6-4/270, Sr.; Tyler Burdick, TE, 6-5/238, Sr.; Renza Hughley, WR, 5-10/166, Sr.; George Linberger, C, 6-3/254, Jr.; Ken Moyer, T, 6-6/293, Sr.; Tim Olsen, G, 6-5/252, Sr.; Todd Olsen, G, 6-5/258, Sr.; John Perry, FB, 6-3/218, Sr.; David Rohrs, TB, 6-1/190, Sr. **Defense (5):** Jon Bowsher,

S, 5-11/197, Sr.; DeWayne Fletcher, CB, 6-2/190, Jr.; Tony Hirsell, MG, 6-3/248, Jr.; Mike McCreary, E, 6-6/239, Sr.; Keith Saunders, CB, 6-1/198, Jr.

Key Returnees: Steve Bailey, LB, Soph.; Jerry Evans, TE, Jr.; Tom Gruno, DE, Sr.; Steve Haddad, QB, Jr. (RS); Bryan Hartong, OT, Sr.; John Jones, CB, Sr.; Rich Isaiah, WR, Soph.; Steve Keene, QB, Jr.; Paul Krimm, P, Jr.; Mark Melfi, QB, Soph.; Bruce Nichols, K, Sr.; Brett Ryder, LB, Sr.; Brent Schneider, DE, Sr.; Allen Smiley, TB, Jr.; Dwayne Smith, LB, Soph.; Doug Spidel, DT, Jr.; James Townsend, DT, Jr. (RS); Neil Trotter, TB, Jr.; Dan Vargo, CB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Wayne Goodwin, RB (JC); Alex Gordon, RB (JC); Kevin Meger, QB.

Schedule: At Ball State, Sept. 3; Western Michigan, Sept. 10; at McNeese State, Sept. 17; Bowling Green State, Sept. 24; at Ohio University, Oct. 1; Northern Illinois, Oct. 8; Austin Peay State, Oct. 15; at Miami of Ohio, Oct. 22; Kent State, Oct. 29; at Eastern Michigan, Nov. 5; Central Michigan, Nov. 12.

Last year, a late-season game between Eastern Michigan and Toledo was moved to a Thursday night as the conference got some rare national TV exposure. But Toledo, a preseason pick to win the league title, was unceremoniously dumped, 38-9, en route to a dismal 3-7-1 campaign.

"Right, wrong or otherwise, we were picked to win, and I felt about as optimistic," Coach Dan Simrell said. "Of course, I didn't expect to go through three tailbacks and four quarterbacks in one season. This year, I'm a little more guarded in my optimism."

"I think our kids are better football players than last year's record indicates. I know they feel the same way, and I sense they're excited to have an opportunity to make up for it."

After a season of injury and inconsistency, quarterbacks Mark Melfi and Steve Keene and tailbacks David Rohrs, Allen

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	JAMIE HENCE, Western Michigan	6-01	173	Senior
WR	ERIC REED, Central Michigan	5-10	175	Senior
TE	KYLE HOCKMAN, Bowling Green St.	6-03	216	Junior
T	KEN MOYER, Toledo	6-06	293	Senior
T	MIKE PASCHALL, Kent State	6-04	240	Senior
C	CHIP CURTIS, Kent State	6-02	250	Senior
G	TODD OLSEN, Toledo	6-05	258	Senior
G	CHUCK PELLEGRINI, Central Michigan	6-05	280	Senior
QB	PATRICK YOUNG, Kent State	5-08	171	Soph.
RB	JOHN HOOD, Central Michigan	6-00	190	Junior
RB	BERNIE PARMALÉE, Ball State	6-01	180	Soph.
RB	*ERIC WILKERSON, Kent State	5-09	180	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NT	SCOTT ALFERINK, Central Michigan	6-01	230	Senior
DL	DERRICK CARR, Bowling Green St.	6-05	253	Junior
DL	DAVE MALINSKI, Ball State	6-02	250	Senior
DL	MIKE MCCREARY, Toledo	6-06	239	Senior
DL	BERT WEIDNER, Kent State	6-03	261	Senior
LB	CHARLES DOTSON, Bowling Green St.	6-00	178	Soph.
LB	GREG GARNICA, Ball State	6-00	220	Junior
LB	ERIC HOFFMAN, Western Michigan	6-02	221	Senior
LB	JOEL SMEENGE, Western Michigan	6-06	219	Junior
DB	CHARLES GORDON, Eastern Michigan	5-10	170	Junior
DB	MIKE HOLMES, Bowling Green St.	6-00	178	Junior
DB	JAMIE HOWELL, Kent State	6-01	185	Senior
DB	KYLE KRAMER, Bowling Green St.	6-03	185	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	JOHN CREEK, Western Michigan	5-10	175	Senior
P	RON BANAITIS, Eastern Michigan	6-03	222	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	BOBBY CAMERON, Ohio University	5-10	176	Senior
WR	RON HEARD, Bowling Green St.	5-10	176	Junior
WR	*REGGIE THORNTON, Bowling Green St.	5-11	170	Junior
TE	BILL KUPP, Eastern Michigan	6-04	236	Senior
T	J.D. BRADBURY, Ohio University	6-06	295	Senior
T	GARY VANDERWEELE, Western Michigan	6-06	272	Senior
C	JIM COLOSIMO, Eastern Michigan	6-01	242	Senior
G	TIM OLSEN, Toledo	6-05	252	Senior
G	BEN STRATTON, Kent State	6-04	270	Junior
QB	RICH DACKIN, Bowling Green St.	6-02	196	Junior
RB	SHAWN DANIELS, Bowling Green St.	5-11	237	Senior
RB	LEROY EDMONDS, Kent State	5-11	188	Soph.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NT	DOUG KRAUS, Western Michigan	6-04	246	Junior
NT	MOSE CARTER, Ball State	6-01	245	Senior
DL	BOB GETZ, Miami (O.)	6-02	248	Senior
DL	ED GREITZER, Kent State	6-03	232	Junior
DL	TOM GRUNO, Toledo	6-02	236	Senior
LB	BILL GARRETT, Ohio University	6-01	222	Junior
LB	DAL McDONALD, Bowling Green St.	6-00	227	Soph.
LB	GEORGE RICUMSTRICT, Central Mich.	6-00	235	Senior
LB	SCOTT WYKA, Eastern Michigan	6-02	220	Junior
DB	WILLIE BERRIOS, Western Michigan	6-01	188	Senior
DB	DeWAYNE FLETCHER, Toledo	6-02	190	Junior
DB	BERT HENDERSON, Western Michigan	5-09	171	Senior
DB	CHRIS WAGNER, Western Michigan	6-00	189	Soph.

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	KEVIN NICHOLL, Central Michigan	5-11	175	Junior
P	CHUCK KONRAD, Miami (O.)	5-09	205	Senior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Parmalee



Hood



Young



Alferink



McCreary



Garnica



Dotson



Kramer

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Wilkerson, Kent St.	244	1221	10
Parmalee, Ball State	215	1064	13
Hood, Central Michigan	208	1121	10
Patton, E. Michigan	226	1112	12
Rohrs, Toledo	178	681	6
Caldwell, Ohio	238	950	2
Davis, W. Michigan	115	477	4
Thornton, Ohio	160	524	4
Stevenson, C. Michigan	137	522	1
Edmonds, Kent St.	104	448	4

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Adams, E. Michigan	190	100	117.0
Dackin, Bowling Green	330	189	116.9
Kimbrough, W. Mich.	185	88	114.3
Carruthers, C. Mich.	191	108	113.3
Phillips, Kent State	248	141	109.9
Kosakowski, Ball State	237	130	108.5
Bergan, Toledo	130	72	107.9
Bates, Miami	359	218	107.3
Kruse, W. Michigan	278	125	84.9
Thornton, Ohio	180	75	84.4

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Hence, W. Michigan	50	858	6
Chester, Ball State	50	838	3
Thornton, Bowling Green	47	698	4
Otten, Bowling Green	44	346	1
Reed, Central Michigan	43	652	3
Schillinger, Miami	39	574	3
Dye, Kent State	40	606	1
Thomas, Miami	40	243	0
Hockman, Bowling Green	37	460	0
Boyko, W. Michigan	36	530	3
Stofa, Miami	36	504	2

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Wilkerson, Kent St.	2074	188.5	
Hood, Central Michigan	1709	155.4	
Parmalee, Ball State	1352	135.2	
Patton, E. Michigan	1292	117.5	
Rohrs, Toledo	813	116.1	
Thornton, B. Green	1150	104.5	
Caldwell, Ohio	983	89.4	
Hence, W. Michigan	858	85.8	
Davis, W. Michigan	593	84.7	
Jones, Ball State	863	78.4	

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Konrad, Miami	54	2157	39.9
Banaitis, E. Michigan	51	1919	37.6
VanVoorhis, Ohio	43	1606	37.3
Stein, Western Michigan	67	2485	37.1
Martino, Kent State	40	1475	36.9

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Gordon, E. Michigan	22	250	11.4
Reed, Bowling Green	21	218	10.4
Finnell, Ball State	17	166	9.8
Costello, Miami	9	78	8.7

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Gussman, Miami	25	20	1.82
Nicholl, Central Michigan	23	16	1.45
Nichols, Toledo	23	15	1.36
Fultz, Ohio	17	14	1.27

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Hood, Central Michigan	20	497	24.9
Wilkerson, Kent State	25	584	23.4
Jones, Ball State	32	713	22.3
Nelson, Miami	23	479	20.8

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Young, Central Michigan	6	62	0.55
Smith, Ohio	4	46	0.50
Henderson, W. Michigan	5	76	0.45
Gordon, Eastern Michigan	5	71	0.45

Smiley and Neil Trotter will fight it out for starting jobs. The winners will have the luxury of working behind the league's premier offensive line, featuring George Linberger at center, twins Todd and Tim Olsen at the guard slots, Ken Moyer at one tackle and Ty Burdick at tight end.

"I don't think there are too many lines better than ours, and that should play to our advantage since we rely so strongly on the running game," Moyer said.

The defensive line, however, will sport some new faces. Only end Tom Gruno and noseguard Tony Hirsler return up front, while the secondary is bolstered by veterans DeWayne Fletcher, Jon Bowsher and Keith Saunders.

WESTERN MICHIGAN

Coach: Al Molde (5-6-0, 1 year; 111-63-6 overall, 17 years).

1987 Record: 4-4/5th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Tad Evans, OG; Rob Horrmann, DT; Jim Kramer, DT; Jim Kreutzer, OG; Denny Robinson, CB; Scott Sypniewski, C.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Allan Boyko, WR, 6-2/186, Soph.; Bruce Boyko, WR, 6-3/201, Jr.; Rob Davis, RB, 5-8/170, Sr.; Kevin Haverdink, T, 6-7/275, Sr.; Jamie Hence, SE, 6-1/173, Sr.; Tony Kimbrough, QB, 6-2/178, Jr.; Robert Oliver, FL, 5-10/176, Sr.; Gary VanderWeele, T, 6-6/272, Sr. **Defense (8):** Willie Berrios, S, 6-1/188, Sr.; Bert Henderson, CB, 5-9/171, Sr.; Eric Hoffman, LB, 6-2/221, Sr.; Doug Kraus, MG, 6-4/246, Jr.; Scott Lonier, LB, 6-4/210, Soph.; Aaron Milton, LB, 5-11/209, Jr.; Joel Smeenge, LB, 6-6/219, Jr.; Arthell Woods, S, 6-1/183, Jr.

Key Returnees: David Belle, WR, Sr.; John Creek, K, Sr.; Ray Fonseca, OG, Sr.; Brian Johnson, S, Soph.; Jonn Laney, RB, Jr.; Marty Martens, TE, Sr.; Mark Nabozny, DT, Soph.; Scott Thomas, OL, Soph.; Chris Wagner, DB, Soph. (RS/neck).

Top Newcomers: Dan Boggan, RB (transfer/Indiana); James Glover, RB (JC/RS); Paul Johnson, DT (RS); Doug Sleight, TE (JC).

Schedule: At Wisconsin, Sept. 3; at Toledo, Sept. 10; Illinois State, Sept. 17; Bowling Green State, Oct. 1; at Miami of Ohio, Oct. 8; Kent State, Oct. 15; at Eastern Michigan, Oct. 22; Central Michigan, Oct. 29; Ball State, Nov. 5; at Northern Illinois, Nov. 12; Ohio University, Nov. 19.

The big question at Western Michigan is whether the Broncos can produce a running game that will effectively balance what should again be the league's most wide-open passing attack.

In Coach Al Molde's first season, Western Michigan passed for 2,899 of its 3,922 offensive yards. Dave Kruse, a pocket passer, produced 1,592 passing yards in the team's first seven games but threw 18 interceptions and only four touchdown passes. Tony Kimbrough, a junior college transfer, took over from there and threw for 1,307 yards and nine TDs in just four games. Kimbrough will get the starting nod this time around.

"Tony missed spring ball last year, so when he came in last fall, he'd never had anything to do with our offense," Molde said. "It took time for him to learn it, let alone be proficient at it. By October, we knew we had to get him in there, and it was readily apparent he was able to utilize his better physical skills."

With Kruse, Kimbrough and receiver



Western Michigan's defense is sprinkled with standouts, such as linebacker Eric Hoffman.

Jamie Hence (a league-best 50 catches for 858 yards), the Broncos usually were successful moving the ball. At the same time, however, Molde is aware his team had trouble holding leads because the running game was incapable of working the clock.

"We spent a lot of time in the spring looking at a two-back offense," he said. "Dan Boggan is a fullback who transferred from Indiana and Robert Davis is a good I-back, so we think we have the right people."

Despite a lack of depth, the defense is sprinkled with such standouts as linebackers Eric Hoffman and Joel Smeenge, middle guard Doug Kraus and safety Willie Berrios.

MIAMI OF OHIO

Coach: Tim Rose (29-26-1, 5 years).

1987 Record: 5-3/T2nd; 5-6 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Mike Bates, QB; Mike Davis, C; Gary Gussman, K; Curt Jackowski, OT; Andy Keith, TE; Matt Kemper, OT; Matt Kohn, LB; Mike Kusan, TE; Andrew Marlatt, DT; Pete Mather, LB; Shawn Reilley, C; John Schaefer, OG; Andy Schilling, WB; Tom Schmitt, OG; Todd Snyder, DB; Chris Thomas, FB; Sheldon White, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (1): John Stofa, SE, 6-3/184, Jr. **Defense (5):** Mike Craw-

ford, DB, 6-0/185, Jr.; Bob Getz, T, 6-2/248, Sr.; Jim Harnett, DB, 6-2/199, Jr.; Jerry Prochko, LB, 6-0/216, Jr.; Dave Wiener, LB, 6-3/218, Soph.

Key Returnees: Scott Barnett, DB, Soph.; Mondo Costello, TB, Soph.; Randy Gebhardt, OT, Sr.; Glen Huffman, TE, Jr.; David Iafolla, LB, Jr.; Bill Jawitz, SE, Sr.; Chuck Konrad, K, Sr.; Mark Kuzma, QB, Soph.; Bart Letcavits, DB, Soph.; Don Ruff, DB, Sr.; Chris Trainor, OG, Sr.; Greg Wearsch, DB, Soph.

Schedule: At Eastern Michigan, Sept. 3; at Oklahoma State, Sept. 10; at Minnesota, Sept. 17; Cincinnati, Sept. 24; at Ball State, Oct. 1; Western Michigan, Oct. 8; at Ohio University, Oct. 15; Toledo, Oct. 22; at Bowling Green State, Oct. 29; Kent State, Nov. 12; Central Michigan, Nov. 19.

Miami Coach Tim Rose isn't as concerned about who will call the plays as he is about who will run them. Only one of offensive regular returns.

"Except for Glen Huffman at tight end and John Stofa at wide receiver, it's a mass of question marks," Rose said.

The Redskins will have a sound kicking game behind senior Chuck Konrad, and Rose is hoping the defensive front seven will be sound with people like linemen Bob Getz and linebacker Jerry Prochko. But the secondary suffered some heavy losses.

"In terms of numbers, this is the biggest transition we've had to make since I've been here," said Rose, who is entering his sixth year as head coach and 11th overall at Miami. "I think we have been recruiting well, though, and I'm confident our personnel is solid."

"We're very inexperienced, but we're not young, and there's a big difference there. We're not in a position where we'll be forced to play many first- and second-year players."

The Redskins' offensive hopes would seem to center on the development of a quarterback and tailback, possibly sophomores Mark Kuzma and Mondo Costello.

EASTERN MICHIGAN

Coach: Jim Harkema (23-31-2, 5 years; 91-60-3 overall, 15 years).

1987 Record: 7-1/1st; 9-2 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Ron Adams, QB; Mike Burns, DE; Brian Clouse, OG; Jim Haefner, DT; Darrell Harle, OG; Evans Hicks, OT; Eric Miller, DE; Gary Patton, TB; Branko Vincic, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Jim Colosimo, C, 6-1/242, Sr.; Matt Klassa, T, 6-7/270, Sr.; Bill Kupp, TE, 6-4/236, Sr.; Craig Ostrander, FL, 5-8/172, Sr.; Steve Palmar, FB, 6-0/214, Sr.; Mark Ziegler, WR, 5-11/164, Sr. **Defense (7):** Dan Bennett, DB, 5-9/162, Soph.; Keith Bertram, LB, 6-1/216, Sr.; Charles Gordon, DB, 5-10/170, Jr.; Anthony Johnson, LB, 6-0/207, Soph.; Tom Menard, S, 5-10/196, Sr.; Jerry Smith, S, 6-0/200, Jr.; Scott Wyka, LB, 6-2/220, Jr.

Key Returnees: Ron Banaitis, P, Sr.; Mike Bass, DT, Soph.; Donshell English, DE, Soph.; Rob Fogarty, TE, Jr.; Bobby Foster, TB, Jr.; Mike Haynes, OG, Jr.; Tim Henneghan, K, Jr.; Jimmie Johnson, TB, Sr.; Scott Jurek, LB, Sr.; Charles Nash, FB, Soph.; Craig Petersmark, DT, Soph.; Mike Row, OG, Jr.; Tom Sullivan, QB, Jr.; Eric Towe, OT, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Tim Kellogg, S (RS); Fred McClendon, LB (RS).

Schedule: Miami of Ohio, Sept. 3; at

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Al Molde, Western Michigan; Paul Schudel, Ball State; Moe Ankney, Bowling Green State.

Molde is to be commended for the vast improvement shown by the Broncos last season. Schudel has the Cardinals on the right track and in contention for the conference title. Ankney has rebuilt following subpar performances the last two seasons caused by the loss of numerous key players. All three are likely to have teams in the race for the California Bowl.

Best coaches: Herb Deromedi, Central Michigan; Jim Harkema, Eastern Michigan.

Deromedi hasn't faced a losing season in ages. His teams normally rate among the league's most disciplined. Harkema will have a chance to justify this ranking this season. The Hurons lost several key players from last year's championship team and could face a tough '88. Even if that happens, his past performance indicates that Harkema is a superb mentor.

Best programs: Bowling Green State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Toledo.

Worst program: Ohio University.

Worst not only in this conference, but



Best coach: Central Michigan's Herb Deromedi

in all of Division I-A. This is a woeful football team and coaching staff. The athletic department might consider scheduling Columbia.

Programs on the rise: Ball State, Western Michigan.

Program on the decline: Miami (O.).

The once-proud Redskins now are looking up from the second division.

Most underrated players: Brennen Baker, FB, Ball State; Willie Berrios, S, Western Michigan; Keith Bertram, LB, Eastern Michigan; Bruce Boyko, WR, Western Michigan; Derrick Carr, DT,

Bowling Green State; Mose Carter, NG, Ball State; Jim Colosimo, C, Eastern Michigan; Bobby Foster, TB, Eastern Michigan; Greg Garnica, LB, Ball State; Doug Kraus, MG, Western Michigan; Dave Malinski, DT, Ball State; Dal McDonald, LB, Bowling Green State; Tom Menard, S, Eastern Michigan; Craig Ostrander, FL, Eastern Michigan; Eric Reed, WR, Central Michigan.

Stars on the horizon: Dan Boggan, RB, Western Michigan; Tim Kellogg, S, Eastern Michigan; David Riley, QB, Ball State; Doug Sleight, TE/OG, Western Michigan; Tom Sullivan, QB, Eastern Michigan.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Kent State, Ball State, Toledo; receivers—Western Michigan, Bowling Green State, Miami (O.); offensive linemen—Toledo, Kent State, Eastern Michigan; defensive linemen—Kent State, Central Michigan, Ball State; linebackers—Western Michigan, Bowling Green State, Eastern Michigan; defensive backfield—Western Michigan, Bowling Green State, Eastern Michigan.

Conference snake pit: Eastern Michigan.

The Hurons have lost once at home in the last two seasons.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Youngstown State, Sept. 10; Kent State, Sept. 17; at Arizona, Sept. 24; Central Michigan, Oct. 8; at Ball State, Oct. 15; Western Michigan, Oct. 22; at Ohio U., Oct. 29; Toledo, Nov. 5; at Bowling Green State, Nov. 12.

Central Michigan was the only MAC team to catch Eastern Michigan a year ago, but that wasn't enough to stop the Hurons from hauling in their first title.

The Hurons went on to end the league's recent miseries in the California Bowl with a 30-27 upset of San Jose State, after which the school's basketball team followed with its first MAC championship and first NCAA Tournament appearance.

"It was some kind of year, something very special," said Coach Jim Harkema, who six years ago inherited a program that had posted a total of four wins in four seasons. "But, now, last year is the past."

All eyes will be on quarterback Tom Sullivan and tailback Bobby Foster, who replace Ron Adams and Gary Patton after the latter pair combined for 3,379 yards of offense. But Harkema is not worried about those positions.

He is more concerned about his defensive line, which has only two returning starters—tackle Matt Klass and center Jim Colosima.

The perimeter defense, built around junior back Charles Gordon, is excellent and features an experienced linebacking corps that includes Anthony Johnson, Scott Wyca and Keith Bertram.

Still, it will be hard to envision the

Hurons making another trip to the California Bowl.

"We'll find out if our program is as good as I think it is," Harkema said. "Do we have the talent to plug the holes as we go from one year to the next, or is it going to take four years to get back to the top? That's the question we'll answer."

OHIO UNIVERSITY

Coach: Cleve Bryant (4-29, 3 years).

1987 Record: 0-8/9th; 1-10 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: John Caldwell, RB; Tom Gerhart, LB; Tom Kutz, DE; Doug Mangen, LB; Jesse Owens, FB; Roger Smith, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): J.D. Bradbury, T, 6-6/295, Sr.; Bobby Cameron, WR, 5-10/176, Sr.; Brian Faut, C, 6-2/246, Sr.; Cyle Feldman, WR, 5-8/169, Sr.; Jerry Lebold, TE, 6-3/228, Sr.; Ron Rogers, T, 6-2/279, Sr. (might switch to DT); Anthony Thornton, QB, 6-1/185, Soph. **Defense (7):** Devlin Culliver, S, 5-10/167, Jr.; John Evangelista, LB, 6-2/288, Sr.; Bill Garrett, LB, 6-1/222, Jr.; Lester Hardley, 5-11/185, S, Soph.; Brad O'Neill, T, 6-2/246, Sr.; Ed Shy, E, 6-2/200, Jr.; Antonio Young, CB, 6-1/165, Soph.

Key Returnees: Byron Cross, WR, Soph.; Mike Fultz, K/P, Sr.; Larry Hargrove, CB, Jr.; Derek Hendrix, LB, Soph.; Jack Leeder, LB, Jr.; Chris Mobley, RB, Sr.; Dean Nance, OG, Sr.; Ollie Perkins, WR, Sr.; Chris Russo, DT, Jr.; Stan Rykowski, DT, Jr.; Rich VanVoorhis, P, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Buster Crabtree, LB; Andrew Greer, FB (JC); Darrell LeSure, FB (JC); Chris Park, OL; Keith Shepherd, DL.

Schedule: At Marshall, Sept. 10; at Purdue, Sept. 17; at Nevada-Las Vegas, Sept. 24;

Toledo, Oct. 1; at Bowling Green, Oct. 8; Miami of Ohio, Oct. 15; at Kent State, Oct. 22; Eastern Michigan, Oct. 29; at Central Michigan, Nov. 5; Ball State, Nov. 12; at Western Michigan, Nov. 19.

There's some question about the number of outstanding players at Ohio University, but there's no doubt among MAC coaches that Cleve Bryant's program is about to take off.

"You have to win battles off the field before you win them on the field," Bryant said. "If you do that, the ball will start rolling your way. We've had some fine recruiting classes, our facilities have been improved and we're at the point where it's time to have it all start paying off."

Still, doesn't Bryant have to be concerned with reversing a losing attitude that has been fueled by just 12 wins over the last five seasons?

"I don't think so," he said. "I feel very good about our players. We've had some tough situations, but when they look at the films they know they were right in the thick of a lot of games. We've just been creative in finding ways to lose. I'm confident that's going to turn around."

With the exception of two running backs, the offense returns intact. Sophomore Anthony Thornton should be improved at quarterback. The defense must plug holes in the line, but the secondary, built around Devlin Culliver, and the linebacking corps, led by John Evangelista, are solid. ■

Utah State could surprise in PCAA (Big West?)

By JOHN AKERS
San Jose Mercury News

What we have here is a league that needs a shrink. Or at least some first-class counseling that will help the Pacific Coast Athletic Association solve its identity crisis.

Should it remain the PCAA, even though marketing research indicated that the name was a major factor in the league's identity problem? Should it change to the Big West, seemingly the most agreeable alternative? Or to the Wild Wild West (starring Robert Conrad, perhaps), another suggestion? Or maybe the Mae West, which was gaining support from a Las Vegas writer's campaign?

"We have to get people to recognize who is in the league," said new Commissioner Jim Haney, the former commissioner of the Missouri Valley Conference. "We're not the Pac-10 or the WAC. We're the PCAA or the Big West or whoever we are."

Phew. It can get confusing, can't it?

But it's also confusing and a little embarrassing to live in the shadow of college football's other major conferences. Quick, name six of the PCAA's eight football teams. If you can't, that's one reason for a name change.

There are others.

San Jose State had one of the most dominating teams in league history last season but couldn't crack the wire-service ratings. And most of the schools are short on resources, which becomes painfully apparent every time Fullerton State gets crushed by Florida or Long Beach State gets thumped by Michigan.

That's when the real problem goes one step beyond being a name game.

UTAH STATE

Coach: Chuck Shelton (8-14, 2 years; 48-73 overall, 11 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/2nd; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Tony Brown, CB; Gary Hulsey, DT; John Leshner, OT; Darrin Long, S; Petey Maiden, TE; Donald Miller, LB; Tim Ray, FB; Brett Schnitzius, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Jerry Brown, G, 6-5/275, Sr.; Patrick Newman, WR, 6-1/195, Jr.; Brett Payne, RB, 6-0/190, Jr.; Sid Roberts, C, 6-3/247, Sr.; Kendal Smith, WR, 5-9/186, Sr.; Brent Snyder, QB, 6-4/218, Sr.; David Walker, G, 6-3/270, Sr. **Defense (7):** Kevin Bouwman, LB, 6-1/225, Soph.; Travis Clark, S, 6-3/187, Soph.; Tom Hansen, LB, 6-3/220, Soph.; Greg Haynes, CB, 6-0/173, Jr. (injured shoulder in spring); Brian Hunsaker, T, 6-5/255, Sr.; Jeff Hunsaker, E, 6-5/245, Jr.; Drew McCandless, NG, 6-6/238, Soph.

Key Returnees: Louie Aguiar, P, Sr.; Ryan Duve, TE, Soph. (RS); Mark Egginton, NG, Sr.; Scott Munson, CB, Soph.; Jim Otto, LB, Sr.; Troy Phillips, NG, Jr.; Timo Tagaloa, FB, Sr.; Todd Thornton, DE, Sr.; Toby Tyler, S (RS).

Top Newcomers: Tony Brown, DT/NG (JC); Tracey Jenkins, WR (RS); Rod Moore, WR

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. UTAH STATE

Snyder and Smith turn the Aggies into top contenders for the California Bowl.

2. FRESNO STATE

Why should '88 be different? Sweeney's team is never far from the top.

3. SAN JOSE STATE

The Spartans will miss Perez and face massive retooling almost everywhere.

4. FULLERTON STATE

Dark-horse Titans are slowly climbing the conference ladder.

5. LONG BEACH STATE

The 49ers are alive and well—for now. Graham is a capable quarterback.

6. PACIFIC

The Tigers have talent, as always, but won't do much, as always.

7. NEW MEXICO STATE

The Aggies have their sights set on a possible first-division finish.

8. NEVADA-LAS VEGAS

The Rebels are runnin' in the wrong direction. Needs? Where do we begin?

(RS); Todd Richardson, FB (JC); Keith Robertson, TE (JC); Rob VandePol, DL (RS); Shannon White, OT (JC); Shawn White, OT (JC).

Schedule: At Nebraska, Sept. 3; at Missouri, Sept. 10; New Mexico State, Sept. 24; at Brigham Young, Sept. 30; Long Beach State, Oct. 8; at Fresno State, Oct. 15; at San Jose State, Oct. 22; Pacific, Oct. 29; Nevada-Las Vegas, Nov. 5; Utah, Nov. 12; at Fullerton State, Nov. 19.

Little in Utah State's not-too-distant past suggests a PCAA title in its near future. The Aggies lost their first five 1987 games (two of those by a combined 97-12 score), they haven't had a winning record since 1980 and their last title, won in 1979, was partly the result of a forfeit.

Yet, corner a rival coach and he'll tell you the Aggies are the team to beat. In most cases, these coaches seem to be in reasonable control of their faculties.

Why the Aggies? Because their last impression was lasting.

They won five of their last six games behind strong-armed Brent Snyder (2,887 yards passing), who established himself as the best of the PCAA's returning quarterbacks, and a lightning-quick pair of receivers, Kendal Smith (67 receptions, 1,048 yards last season) and Patrick Newman (46, 665). And with 14 starters returning from last year's surprise team that tied for second in the PCAA, Coach Chuck Shelton has not been forced to rely solely on junior college help.

The Aggies nearly doubled their offensive output in Shelton's second season at Utah State, thanks mostly to Smith and Snyder.

Smith, also a top return man, is the

league's top returnee in all-purpose rushing (145.36 yards per game) and was ranked 14th nationally. Snyder, one of four junior college quarterbacks recruited by Utah State last spring, shattered many of Utah State's passing records while ranking sixth nationally with 252 yards per game in total offense. Aside from breaking Tony Adams' one-season passing yardage record, Snyder became the first Aggie to pass for more than 300 yards in four consecutive games and set Utah State single-season records for passes completed (226) and passes attempted (427). His 20 touchdown passes were two short of the school record.

Improvement will be needed defensively, however. Utah State was last in the PCAA in pass and total defense, and next-to-last in rushing defense.

Five members of the Aggies' front seven, including tackle Brian Hunsaker and his brother, end Jeff Hunsaker, are back. The secondary, anchored by Greg Haynes and Travis Clark, should be improved.

Two starters, tough inside linebacker Donald Miller and fullback Tim Ray, were dismissed from the team.

FRESNO STATE

Coach: Jim Sweeney (76-36-1, 10 years; 133-115-2 overall, 23 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T2nd; 6-5 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Dean Collins, FB; Dave Ferguson, DE; Brian Folland, C; Jethro Franklin, DE; Ron Jenkins, FL; Keith McCoy, CB; John O'Leary, LB; Brock Smith, WR; Rod Webster, S; Fred Wilburn, CB; Jay Wilkerson, LB; Mike Withycombe, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Craig Jones, TE, 6-4/235, Sr.; Ray Langhain, G, 6-4/275, Sr.; Brent Pollock, G, 6-4/280, Jr.; Kelly Skipper, TB, 5-6/180, Sr.; Dave Telford, QB, 6-3/195, Sr.; Jeff Truschel, T, 6-4/265, Sr. **Defense (4):** Ron Cox, LB, 6-2/230, Soph.; Tony Harris, S, 6-3/205, Sr.; Chuck McCutchen, NG, 6-2/245, Sr.; Tracy Rogers, LB, 6-2/250, Sr.

Key Returnees: Rich Bartlewski, TE, Jr.; Kelly Brooks, FB, Soph. (RS/medical); Craig Bowens, S, Sr.; Adrian Cooks, FB, Soph.; Garnett Fountain, LB, Sr.; Myron Jones, TB, Jr.; Darrel Martin, CB, Jr.; Robert Nobles, LB, Soph.; Miguel Padilla, P/WR, Jr.; Jim Rade-mann, C, Soph.; Nick Ruggeroli, DE, Soph.; David Shelton, S, Jr.; Jeff Skidmore, OT, Jr.; Anthony Williams, FL, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Mark Barsotti, QB (RS); Sylvester Brumfield, TB (JC); Terry Cook, DE (JC); Willie Howard, DE (JC); Melvin Johnson, OG; Steve Loop, K (transfer/JC, California); Reggie Meredith, CB (JC); Dwight Pickens, SE (JC); Jeff White, CB (JC); Ricky White, TB; Kendrick Young, LB (JC).

Schedule: At New Mexico, Sept. 3; at Colorado, Sept. 10; New Mexico State, Sept. 17; McNeese State, Sept. 24; at Oregon State, Oct. 1; at Fullerton State, Oct. 8; Utah State, Oct. 15; at San Jose State, Oct. 29; Pacific, Nov. 5; at Nevada-Las Vegas, Nov. 12; Long Beach State, Nov. 19.

Fresno State, in search of a second PCAA title in four years, will be forced to

Continued

rely on a top-notch defense rather than its trademark wide-open offense.

Tracy Rogers and Ron Cox are the league's best pair of linebackers. The 6-foot-2, 250-pound Rogers is being called a Butkus Award candidate, and the 6-2, 230-pound Cox was named to The Sporting News' freshman All-America team last season. However, strong safety Tony Harris and lineman Chuck McCutchen are the only other returning defensive starters.

"We're rebuilding the defense, but we shouldn't have that much of a falloff," Bulldogs Coach Jim Sweeney said. "I feel like Fresno State is identified with the passing game and moving the ball, but our success has been due to the defense more than anything."

There are still some quality offensive players.

Though only 5-6, running back Kelly Skipper rushed for 588 yards last season, best among the league's returning backs. He'll be joined in the backfield by either walk-on Myron Jones, whom Sweeney said has run the 40-yard dash in 4.36 seconds, or Sylvester Brumfield.

Sweeney believes he has a big-time receiver in junior college transfer Dwight Pickens of national champion El Camino College. Pickens caught 56 passes for 1,209 yards.

"As soon as he started spring practice," Sweeney said, "it was obvious he was in the mold of the Bakers, Ellards and Paiges." Stephen Baker, Henry Ellard and Stephone Paige are former Bulldog wide

receivers playing in the National Football League.

Junior quarterback Dave Telford, sparked by a 536-yard performance against Pacific, set four PCAA passing records last season but doesn't have the 1988 starting job nailed down. Sweeney, concerned by the team's inability to score, promised to give freshman Mark Barsotti a long, hard look because of his running skills.

SAN JOSE STATE

Coach: Claude Gilbert (28-17-1, 4 years; 89-43-3 overall, 12 years).

1987 Record: 7-0/1st; 10-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 46.

Key Losses: Chris Alexander, LB; Mike Barnard, OT; Jim Carter, OG; John Coffee, CB (broke leg in spring practice); Greg Cox, S; Phil Frasca, CB; Mike Hutcherson, DT; Kenny Jackson, TB; Barry Kidney, LB; Bill Klump, TE; Guy Liggins, WR; Doug McCreath, OG; Yepi Pauu, LB; Mike Perez, QB; Kenny Roberts, WR; Larry Sandson, NG; James Saxon, FB; Don Teague, C.

Starters Returning: **Offense (1):** Scott Swall, T, 6-3/266, Sr. **Defense (4):** Norman Brown, LB, 6-3/210, Sr.; John Pukini, DT, 6-3/237, Sr.; Ryan Rasnick, S, 5-10/178, Jr.; Jay Taylor, CB, 5-10/175, Sr.

Key Returnees: Rodney Banks, TE, Jr.; John Collins, C, Sr.; Lloyd Forrest, LB, Sr. (RS/leg); Mark Frederick, OG, Sr.; Anthony Gallegos, OG, Soph.; Stefan Guthrie, NG, Sr.; Tim Jackson, S, Sr.; Johnny Johnson, TB, Jr. (switched from WR); Richard Johnson, DT, Sr.; David Knox, LB, Sr.; Ken Lutz, QB, Sr.; Damon Tarver, OT, Soph.; Scott Wells, WR, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Sheldon Canley, TB (JC); James Courtney, WR (JC); Ara Derderian, OT (JC); Danny Holmes, TB (transfer/San Diego State); Robert Lewis, WR (transfer/Arizona State); George Muraoka, DT (JC); Jason Schmid, QB (transfer/Southern Cal). **Schedule:** At New Mexico State, Sept. 3; Oregon State, Sept. 10; at Hawaii, Sept. 17; at Washington, Sept. 24; at California, Oct. 1; at Stanford, Oct. 8; at Pacific, Oct. 15; Utah State, Oct. 22; Fresno State, Oct. 29; Long Beach State, Nov. 5; at Fullerton State, Nov. 12; at Nevada-Las Vegas, Nov. 19.

Little is left of the group that made a shambles of the PCAA by going 14-0 the last two seasons and 19-3 overall. Eleven San Jose State players were named to last season's all-conference team, but only one remains. Gone are 17 starters.

"It truly is a transition year," Spartans Coach Claude Gilbert said. "I don't want to use the word rebuilding, because I don't like it."

Like it or not, the Spartans must rebuild an offense that returns only one starter—guard Scott Swall. And how do you replace a starting backfield that combined for more than 3,550 yards passing and 1,346 more rushing?

Gilbert will begin by returning junior wide receiver Johnny Johnson to tailback, his natural position. Spartan coaches think Johnson could be a great one. After catching five touchdown passes as the Spartans' top receiver last year, Johnson gave the coaches a preview of things to come by rushing for 59 yards on eight carries in one quarter of San Jose State's regular-season finale against Fullerton State.

"As a wide receiver, we were able to get him the ball only four or five times a game," Gilbert said. "Now he'll get it 30 times, hopefully."

Getting the ball to Johnson will be senior quarterback Ken Lutz, who will have the difficult job of trying to replace Mike Perez. Lutz will bring a scrambling dimension to the position.

Despite key losses at inside linebacker and roverback, the defense should again be strong. Jay Taylor ranks among the best cornerbacks in the nation, while free safety Ryan Rasnick and outside linebacker Lloyd Forrest, who sat out last season with a broken leg, offer experience and stability.

Joining the holdovers are 28 junior college transfers and three transfers from four-year schools—quarterback Jason Schmid of Southern Cal, wide receiver Robert Lewis of Arizona State and running back Danny Holmes of San Diego State. However, only 10 of the junior college transfers were eligible for spring practice.

"It'll be a crash course in Spartan football for the many players who won't join us until fall," Gilbert said. "But we're upbeat, we're positive. We've built a good foundation the last couple of years."

FULLERTON STATE

Coach: Gene Murphy (43-50, 8 years; 58-57, 10 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T2nd; 6-6 overall.

Who'll Fill Perez's Shoes?



Ken Lutz has taken only 22 snaps in games over the last two seasons, and Jason Schmid hasn't had any. This season, one of them will be asked to take over for standout quarterback Mike Perez at San Jose State.

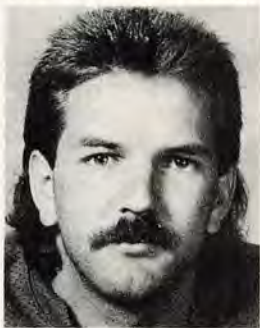
Stranger things have happened. There was nothing about Perez, a reserve in junior college, to suggest stardom when he was redshirted in 1985. But he threw for 6,485 yards over the next two seasons and led the Spartans to consecutive Pacific Coast Athletic Association titles.

At least Lutz and Schmid had been talented starters in junior college. Both are fifth-year seniors with just one shot to fulfill their dreams of becoming a major college quarterback.

"It's going to be a heck of a battle," said quarterbacks and receivers coach Dan Henson. "Neither of them is satisfied at being Number 2."

Lutz was No. 1 going into spring practice because of his experience in the Spartans' system. Schmid spent most of last fall running the scout

teams after transferring from Southern California, where a starting job had been unlikely with Rodney Peete in front of him.



Ken Lutz

"I could have stayed at USC and never played," said Schmid, whose 6-foot-2, 218-pound frame resembles Perez's. "This was the best opportunity I had to come and throw the ball for a good team."

Lutz's dream nearly turned into a nightmare last December. While simulating an option quarterback for the scout team before the California Bowl, he injured his knee, causing possible ligament damage. Lutz ruled out surgery to stay in the running for the starting job.

"I think the knee's a question in everyone's mind, but in mine it isn't," he said. "If I keep it out of my subconscious, I'll be all right."

At 6-foot and 177 pounds, Lutz is smaller than Perez. So, if given the chance, how will Lutz fill Perez's shoes? "With an inch of toilet paper," he said. "He has bigger feet than I do."

—JOHN AKERS

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Ronnie Barber, QB; Phil Benson, C; Eric Franklin, TB; Ed Gillies, OG; Kelly Gogerty, DL; Greg Hammond, OG; Tom Phillips, S; Tyrone Pope, CB; Jeff Taylor, DL; Jim Thornton, TE; Todd White, WR.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Tim Byrnes, FB, 5-11/205, Jr.; Matt Fitts, T, 6-4/265, Sr.; John Gibbs, WR, 6-1/170, Sr.; Mike Oliver, T, 6-6/250, Sr. **Defense (6):** Carlos Adley, NG, 6-1/235, Sr.; Bill Bryan, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; James Howard, CB, 5-11/180, Sr.; A.J. Jenkins, DE, 6-3/225, Sr.; Mike Schaffel, S, 6-0/190, Jr.; Chris Wright, LB, 5-10/205, Jr. **Key Returnees:** Bill Brennan, TE, Jr.; Tony Dill, QB, Jr.; Sean Fernandes, CB, Kevin Henderson, S, Sr.; Harold Jones, LB, Sr. (switched from NG); Stan Lambert, K, Sr.; Michael Moore, TB, Sr.; William Robinson, FB, 5-10/215, Sr.; Joe Scott, LB, Sr.; Carlos Siragusa, QB, Sr.; Jim Sirols, P, Sr.; Tommy Thompson, DT, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Mark Barnes, CB (JC); Buford Halton, TE (JC); Jerry Leggett, LB (transfer/Mississippi State); Anthony Pack, WR (Prop 48); Rocky Palamara, WR (JC); Dan Speltz, QB (JC); Alex Stewart, DT (transfer/Southern California); Scott Whiting, LB (transfer/Appalachian State).

Schedule: At Southwestern Louisiana, Sept. 3; at West Virginia, Sept. 10; at Nevada-Las Vegas, Sept. 17; Pacific, Sept. 24; at Wyoming, Oct. 1; Fresno State, Oct. 8; at Long Beach State, Oct. 15; at New Mexico State, Oct. 22; at Akron, Oct. 29; San Jose State, Nov. 12; Utah State, Nov. 19.

In 1984, Gene Murphy coached Fullerton State to an 11-1 record. That's why eyebrows rise when Murphy says his 1988 team "could have as much ability as any time since I've been here. With all that ability, my concern is a matter of bringing them together."

He gets most excited looking over his new defense, which will include All-PCAA end A.J. Jenkins, inside linebacker Bill Bryan, a third-year starter, and a secondary with plenty of experience. That secondary features cornerbacks James Howard and Sean Fernandes and safeties Kevin Henderson and Mike Schaffel.

Murphy also is excited by the addition of three transfers—defensive tackle Alex Stewart of Southern Cal and linebackers Jerry Leggett of Mississippi State and Scott Whiting of Appalachian State. Add linebacker Russ Oleyer, a junior college All-America, and the Titans might just have the best defense in the PCAA.

Offensively, another junior college All-America, quarterback Dan Speltz of unbeaten El Camino, is battling Carlos Siragusa and Tony Dill for the starting job. Siragusa and John Gibbs, a starting wide receiver, are back with the team after being implicated in an incident in which a Marine Corps sergeant was beaten to death.

Murphy is concerned by the loss of three starters on the offensive line. But tackle Matt Fitts is among the league's best, and recruits Reggie Redding and Laita Leatutufu were outstanding junior college players.

Fullback Tim Byrnes and tailback Mike Pringle, a junior college transfer who began his career at Washington State, will try to make up for the loss of Eric Franklin and the 905 yards he gained rushing last season.

LONG BEACH STATE

Coach: Larry Reisbig (4-7, 1 year).

1987 Record: 2-5/7th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Al Atkins, DE; Bob Brandt, OT; Nate Deaton, NG; Mike Hollingshaus, C; Lane McCarthy, S; Mike McCauley, DE; Jon McMaster, LB; Tim Witherspoon, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Brent Adams, G, 6-2/250, Sr.; Jeff Beilman, TE, 6-3/210, Sr.; Jeff Graham, QB, 6-4/200, Sr.; Derrick Jinks, G, 6-1/255, Sr.; Michael Roberts, TB, 5-10/170, Sr.; Lafayette Shelton, FB, 5-10/186, Sr.; Derek Washington, WR, 6-3/185, Jr. **Defense (5):** Stacey Alexander, CB, 5-10/160, Sr.; Tom Caines, LB, 6-3/230, Sr. (missed four games/ruptured spleen); Keith Jenkins, CB, 6-1/195, Sr.; R.J. Kors, S, 6-0/195, Sr.; Phil Morrison, LB, 6-1/220, Sr.

Key Returnees: Brian Browning, TB, Sr.; Mauricio Gutierrez, LB, Jr.; Pepper Jenkins, LB, Soph. (RS); Willie Lujan, P, Sr.; Mark Seay, WR, Soph.; David Van Steenkiste, K, Sr.; Mark Ziegenhagen, LB, Jr. (RS).

Top Newcomers: Andre Southerland, FB (JC).

Schedule: Boise State, Sept. 3; at Oregon, Sept. 10; at UCLA, Sept. 17; Pacific, Oct. 1; at Utah State, Oct. 8; Fullerton State, Oct. 15; at Hawaii, Oct. 29; at San Jose State, Nov. 5; at New Mexico State, Nov. 12; at Fresno State, Nov. 19; Nevada-Las Vegas, Nov. 26.


In 1987, his first season as coach at Long Beach State, Larry Reisbig spent much of his time attending fund-raisers and trying to convince recruits that the program would indeed still be there when they graduated.

Continued

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PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	*KENDAL SMITH, Utah State	5-09	185	Senior
WR	DWIGHT PICKENS, Fresno State	6-00	175	Junior
WR	DEREK WASHINGTON, Long Beach State	6-03	185	Junior
TE	CEDRIC DAVIS, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-05	230	Junior
T	MATT FITTS, Fullerton State	6-04	265	Senior
T	JEFF TRUSCHEL, Fresno State	6-04	265	Senior
C	SID ROBERTS, Utah State	6-03	247	Senior
G	JERRY BROWN, Utah State	6-05	275	Senior
G	RAY LANGHAIM, Fresno State	6-04	275	Senior
QB	BRENT SNYDER, Utah State	6-04	218	Senior
RB	JOHNNY JOHNSON, San Jose State	6-03	210	Junior
RB	KELLY SKIPPER, Fresno State	5-06	180	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NT	CHUCK McCUTCHEN, Fresno State	6-02	245	Senior
DL	BRIAN HUNSAKER, Utah State	6-05	255	Senior
DL	A.J. JENKINS, Fullerton State	6-03	225	Senior
DL	ALEX STEWART, Fullerton State	6-05	260	Senior
DL	DOC WISE, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-04	280	Junior
LB	BILL BRYAN, Fullerton State	6-02	225	Senior
LB	TOM CAINES, Long Beach State	6-03	230	Senior
LB	RON COX, Fresno State	6-02	230	Soph.
LB	TRACY ROGERS, Fresno State	6-02	250	Senior
DB	RUBEN HARPER, Pacific	5-10	165	Senior
DB	TONY HARRIS, Fresno State	6-03	205	Senior
DB	RYAN RASNICK, San Jose State	5-10	178	Junior
DB	JAY TAYLOR, San Jose State	5-10	175	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	STEVE LOOP, Fresno State	5-11	170	Senior
P	TONY RHYNES, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-010	225	Junior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	JOHN GIBBS, Fullerton State	6-01	170	Senior
WR	LARRY HARRISTON, New Mexico State	5-08	150	Soph.
WR	*ANTHONY WILLIAMS, Fresno State	6-00	175	Senior
TE	CRAIG JONES, Fresno State	6-04	235	Senior
T	PATRICK HARDEN, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-04	280	Junior
T	DUSTIN QUINTON, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-06	305	Junior
C	MIKE THOMPSON, Pacific	6-04	270	Junior
G	ANTHONY GALLEGOS, San Jose State	6-03	266	Soph.
G	BILL OPERIN, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-03	265	Senior
QB	JEFF GRAHAM, Long Beach State	6-04	200	Senior
RB	MICHAEL ROBERTS, Long Beach State	5-10	170	Senior
RB	ANDRE SOUTHERLAND, Long Beach St.	5-11	205	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	RICHARD HARRIS, Pacific	6-01	260	Junior
DL	WILLIE HOWARD, Fresno State	6-03	280	Junior
DL	JEFF HUNSAKER, Utah State	6-05	245	Junior
DL	JOEL NAVARRO, New Mexico State	6-03	227	Junior
LB	SAM DICKEY, New Mexico State	6-03	215	Junior
LB	DARRYL FORD, New Mexico State	6-02	215	Senior
LB	LLOYD FORREST, San Jose State	6-02	212	Senior
LB	PEPPER JENKINS, Long Beach State	6-04	235	Soph.
LB	MIKE McMASTER, Pacific	6-02	200	Senior
DB	CHARLES ANTHONY, Nevada-Las Vegas	6-02	185	Soph.
DB	JAMES HOWARD, Fullerton State	5-11	180	Senior
DB	GREG KOPEREK, Pacific	5-10	185	Junior
DB	MIKE SCHAFFEL, Fullerton State	6-00	190	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	JIM COOK, Nevada-Las Vegas	5-11	190	Senior
P	LOUIE AGUIAR, Utah State	6-03	200	Senior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Smith



Roberts



Snyder



Johnson



Jenkins



Caines



Rogers



Cox

1987 STATISTICS

Returns in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Woods, Nev.-Las Vegas	259	1658	10
Franklin, Fullerton St.	191	905	8
Jackson, San Jose St.	186	818	13
Roberts, L.B. St.	102	577	4
Skipper, Fresno St.	141	588	6

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Perez, San Jose St.	408	243	138.1
Barber, Fullerton St.	265	147	127.8
Telford, Fresno St.	351	202	125.1
Snyder, Utah St.	427	226	118.6
Graham, L.B. St.	347	191	118.2

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Liggins, San Jose St.	77	1208	10
Jenkins, Fresno St.	76	985	3
Smith, Utah St.	67	1048	7
Saxon, San Jose St.	61	561	2
White, Fullerton St.	54	832	9

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Woods, Nev.-Las Vegas	...	1704	154.9
Smith, Utah St.	...	1658	150.7
Saxon, San Jose St.	...	1421	129.2
White, Fullerton St.	...	1490	124.2
Smith, Fresno St.	...	1219	110.8

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Rhynes, Nev.-Las Vegas	56	2447	43.7
Agular, Utah St.	57	2429	42.6
Jones, Pacific	68	2882	42.4
Belli, Fresno St.	72	2945	40.9
Sirois, Fullerton St.	54	2127	39.4

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
White, Fullerton St.	31	374	12.1
Smith, Utah St.	26	293	11.3
Williams, Fresno St.	22	197	9.0
Wells, San Jose St.	36	282	7.8
Alexander, L.B. St.	20	151	7.6

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Belli, Fresno St.	25	16	1.45
Cook, Nev.-Las Vegas	17	15	1.36
Garner, Utah St.	17	12	1.09
Lambert, Fullerton St.	17	12	1.00
VanSteenkiste, L.B. St.	14	11	1.00

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Smith, Fresno St.	19	512	26.9
Payne, Utah St.	21	545	26.0
Saxon, San Jose St.	19	488	25.7
Thomas, Nev.-Las Vegas	19	465	24.5
Moore, Fullerton St.	33	796	24.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Fernandez, Fullerton St.	5	0	.45
Harper, Pacific	5	170	.45
Miller, New Mexico St.	4	74	.36
Webster, Fresno St.	4	112	.30

TOTAL OFFENSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Perez, San Jose St.	450	3213	292.1
Snyder, Utah St.	505	2766	251.4
Telford, Fresno St.	415	2498	227.1
Graham, L.B. St.	408	2162	196.5
Barber, Fullerton St.	335	2090	174.2

SCORING

	Gms.	Pts.	PG
Jackson, San Jose St.	11	98	8.9
Belli, Fresno St.	11	72	6.5
Cook, Nev.-Las Vegas	11	72	6.5
Olivarez, San Jose St.	11	68	6.2
Liggins, San Jose St.	11	60	5.4
Lambert, Fullerton St.	12	65	5.4



Long Beach State quarterback Jeff Graham was intercepted only once every 50 throws last year.

"We're optimistic this fall because we're able to coach and not worry about the other things," Reisbig said. "At least we're out of the press with all that negative stuff about dropping football."

The 49ers' offense should be a positive story. Quarterback Jeff Graham, running back Michael Roberts and wide receiver Derek Washington are the leaders among 10 returning starters. And Reisbig expects running back Andre Southerland, a junior college transfer, to make an immediate impact.

Graham's passing production dropped from 2,924 yards to 2,427, but only because Reisbig was trying to balance the 49er offense. He completed 55 percent of his passes and was intercepted only once every 50 throws.

Roberts rushed for 577 yards, second-best among PCAA returnees, and Washington caught 52 passes.

The 49ers also have five returning defensive starters, and Reisbig spent the recruiting season looking for big linemen who will help improve their rushing defense, which ranked last in the conference. Linebackers Tom Caines and Pepper Jenkins and cornerback Stacey Alexander are the best of the returning defenders.

PACIFIC

Coach: Bob Cope (20-37-0, 5 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/6th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Kennedy Bryant, WR; Ken Calender, DL; Booker Guyton, WR; Todd Herington, LB; Dennis McGowan, OG; Cris Mendenhall, FB; Keith Parker, HB; Mark Roberts, LB; Anthony Simien, HB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Brian Adams, G, 6-1/270, Sr.; Ron Beverly, QB, 5-

11/185, Soph.; Ted Delhl, TE, 6-3/245, Jr. (switched from T); Jeff Frazier, T, 6-3/265, Sr.; Jamie Nott, G, 6-3/270, Jr. (may switch to DT); Mike Thompson, C, 6-4/270, Sr. (switched from G). **Defense (6):** Kendrick Brown, DE, 6-3/225, Jr.; Dan Hampton, DE, 6-3/240, Jr.; Ruben Harper, CB, 5-10/165, Sr.; Richard Harris, T, 6-1/260, Jr. (injured bicep in spring); Greg Koperek, CB, 5-10/185, Jr.; Mike McMaster, LB, 6-2/200, Sr.

Key Returnees: Rand Chatman, RB, Sr.; Glen Ellis, DL, Jr. (RS); Jason Frost, QB, Sr.; Mark Gran, K, Sr.; John Grim, RB, Sr.; Mike Hawkins, LB, Sr.; Brian Jones, P, Jr.; Chad Kurashige, LB, Jr.; Rodney Powell, RB, Jr.; Anthony Williams, RB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Derek Brady, LB (JC); Todd Brouse, S (RS); Fred Clark, OG (JC); Baxter Dunn, DL (JC); Jason Edwards, WR (RS); Tom Zenner, WR (JC).

Schedule: At Arkansas, Sept. 3; at California, Sept. 10; Idaho, Sept. 17; at Fullerton State, Sept. 24; at Long Beach State, Oct. 1; Nevada-Las Vegas, Oct. 8; San Jose State, Oct. 15; Sacramento State, Oct. 22; at Utah State, Oct. 29; at Fresno State, Nov. 5; New Mexico State, Nov. 19.

Pacific probably would be considered the league's up-and-coming team if the Tigers had scored nine well-placed points last season. Losses to Long Beach State (9-6) and Utah State (17-13) meant the difference between a second- and sixth-place finish.

But there are reasons why they finished as low as they did. Pacific had the league's most anemic offense (only 245.4 yards per game) and most elastic defense (six yards allowed per play). That was a young team, however, and it returns six offensive starters and five on defense.

"We have shown the qualities to be a championship-caliber team," Coach Bob Cope said. "But we have not played consistently. We were never a good offense last year, but in the last few games, we were at least adequate."

The Tigers should be strongest defensively, where Ruben Harper and Greg Koperek lead the way. Harper, who intercepted a team-high five passes in '87, is a cornerback, while Koperek will handle center-field duties at safety. Lineman Richard Harris and outside linebacker Mike McMaster could be among the league's best.

Cope thinks his wishbone offense, an anomaly in the PCAA, will be improved. Quarterbacks Jay Frost and Ron Beverly were inexperienced last season, and running backs John Grim, Rodney Powell and Anthony Williams are back.

NEW MEXICO STATE

Coach: Mike Knoll (3-19, 2 years).

1987 Record: 0-7/8th; 2-9 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Tony Adan, C; Voddie Baucham, TE (transfer/Rice); Joe Campbell, DE; Calvin Henry, CB; Jim Miller, S; Todd Parker, S; Jon Roberts, DT; Chris Suydam, LB; Mike Williams, DT; Matt Wright, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Tony DeLorenzo, T, 6-4/260, Soph.; Russell Easter, TB, 6-1/195, Soph.; Andy Miller, G, 6-5/265, Sr.; Nat Rogers, T, 6-4/275, Jr.; Anthony Singleton, FB, 5-10/209, Jr.; Roger Turner, G, 6-4/255, Sr.; Phil Vinson, QB, 6-3/190, Jr.; Alvin Warren, WR, 5-10/170, Soph. **Defense (3):** Sam Dickey, LB, 6-3/215, Jr.; Mike Hall, CB, 6-1/193, Jr.; Scott Zowada, T, 6-3/250, Sr.

Key Returnees: Gary Aldaz, P, Jr.; Pat Brown, TB, Sr. (RS/knee); Darryl Ford, LB, Sr. (RS/academic); Ruben Rubio, K, Soph. **Top Newcomers:** Todd Cutler, QB; Blaze Mayberry, DB; Brian Mosychuk, LB (JC); Joel Navarro, DE (JC).

Schedule: San Jose State, Sept. 3; New Mexico, Sept. 10; at Fresno State, Sept. 17; at Utah State, Sept. 24; at Kansas, Oct. 1; at

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Gene Murphy, Fullerton State; Claude Gilbert, San Jose State.

Murphy, a great teacher whose assistants have gone on to the pros and/or college head coaching jobs, manages to remain competitive despite limited resources and facilities. Gilbert has been a winner wherever he has been but has received little recognition.

Best coach: Jim Sweeney, Fresno State.

The Bulldogs are likely to join the Western Athletic Conference in the near future. With better competition and increased exposure, this program could rank among the best on the West Coast.

Best programs: Fresno State, San Jose State.

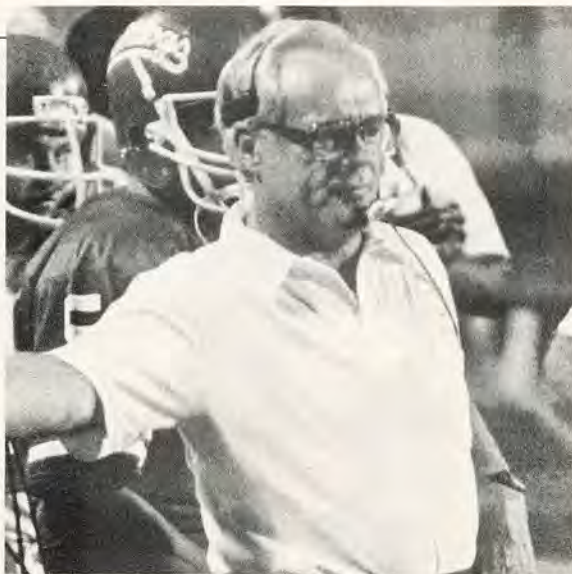
Worst programs: Nevada-Las Vegas, Pacific.

Program on the rise: Fullerton State.

The Titans will return to contender status in '88.

Program on the decline: Nevada-Las Vegas.

Most underrated players: Craig Bowens, S, Fresno State; Kendrick Brown, DE, Pacific; Tim Byrnes, FB, Fullerton State; Tom Caines, LB, Long



Best coach: Fresno State's Jim Sweeney

Beach State; Ron Cox, LB, Fresno State; Sam Dickey, LB, New Mexico State; Darryl Ford, LB, New Mexico State; Anthony Gallegos, OG, San Jose State; Mauricio Gutierrez, LB, Long Beach State; Mike Hawkins, LB, Pacific; Pepper Jenkins, LB, Long Beach State; Johnny Johnson, TB, San Jose State; Brett Payne, RB, Utah State; Jeff Truschel, OT, Fresno State; Scott Wells, WR, San Jose State; Anthony Williams, WR, Fresno State.

Stars on the horizon: Sylvester Brumfield, TB, Fresno State; Fred Clark, OG,

Pacific; Danny Holmes, TB, San Jose State; Willie Howard, DE, Fresno State; Myron Jones, RB, Fresno State; Jerry Leggett, LB, Fullerton State; Robert Lewis, WR, San Jose State; Steve Loop, K, Fresno State; Ken Lutz, QB, San Jose State; Joel Navarro, DE, New Mexico State; Robert Nobles, LB, Fresno State; Dwight Pickens, SE, Fresno State; Jason Schmid, QB, San Jose State; Andre Southerland, FB, Long Beach State; Dan Speltz, QB, Fullerton State; Alex Stewart, DT, Fullerton State; Shannon White, OT, Utah State; Tom Zenner, WR/RB, Pacific.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Utah State, Fresno State, Long Beach State; receivers—Utah State, Fresno State, San

Jose State; offensive linemen—Fresno State, Nevada-Las Vegas, Utah State; defensive linemen—Fullerton State, Utah State, San Jose State; linebackers—Fresno State, Long Beach State, Fullerton State; defensive backfield—San Jose State, Fullerton State, Pacific.

Conference snake pit: Fresno State.

The Bulldogs have the nation's most loyal followers. Dubbed the Red Wave, the Bulldogs' fans often turn road trips into home games, with thousands traveling with the team.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Nevada-Las Vegas, Oct. 15; Fullerton State, Oct. 22; Texas-El Paso, Oct. 29; at Akron, Nov. 5; Long Beach State, Nov. 12; at Pacific, Nov. 19.

Mike Knoll considers this his team for the first time since taking over as New Mexico State coach in 1986. And no one can blame him for not claiming the last two squads, which finished 3-19 overall and 1-13 in the PCAA.

Still, his goals are modest. Getting out of the PCAA's cellar and winning four games would represent major steps for his program. But nothing ever comes easy.

For the second year in a row, Knoll must consider moving his quarterback to another position. Phil Vinson, an outstanding athlete, may line up at wide receiver or tailback because of the after-effects of a shoulder separation.

If Vinson must make the switch, sophomore Mike Reneau would have the inside track to replace him. He will have a good group of receivers in sophomores Larry Harriston, Alvin Warren and Voddie Bacham, who combined for 88 receptions.

Knoll also recruited the junior colleges heavily for improvement in his defensive front. End Joel Navarro, a junior college transfer, should provide help for standout linebackers Sam Dickey and Darryl Ford.

"Our goal is to achieve respectability," Knoll said.

If it doesn't come this season, it might in the next two. Of the Aggies' 10 return-

ing offensive starters, five were freshmen last season. Three others were sophomores.

NEVADA-LAS VEGAS

Coach: Wayne Nunnely (11-11, 2 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T2nd; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Sean Blunt, DB; Mike Contreras, C; Todd Cooks, LB; Anthony Drawhorn, CB; Ike Freeman, DT; Adrian Harris, LB; Darnell Pickens, LB; Tom Sweeney, OG; George Thomas, FL; George Varon, LB; Ickey Woods, FB; Autney Wren, S.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Cedric Davis, TE, 6-5/230, Jr.; Patrick Harden, T, 6-4/280, Jr.; Tommy Jackson, TB, 6-2/210, Jr.; Bill Operlin, G, 6-3/265, Sr.; Dustin Quinton, T, 6-6/305, Jr.; Mike Reddick, SE, 5-9/175, Sr.; Scott Sims, QB, 6-3/195, Soph.

Defense (5): Charles Anthony, S, 6-2/185, Soph.; Tyrone Carter, S, 6-0/175, Jr.; Al Hemmans, CB, 5-9/170, Sr.; Ken Tucker, CB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Doc Wise, T, 6-4/280, Jr.

Key Returnees: Darin Brightmon, FB, Soph.; Jim Cook, K, Sr.; Scott Gunderson, OT, Jr.; Anthony Glover, TE, Soph.; Bernard Jackson, TB, Jr.; Derek Nicholson, DT, Jr.; Tony Pako, OL, Sr.; Tony Rhynes, P, Jr.; Gerald Robinson, CB, Jr. (RS/arm); David Ruggles, OL, Sr.; Jamie Williams, SE, Sr.; Keith Williams, LB, Sr. (RS); Richard Williams, QB, 6-1/180, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Keith Coleman, LB (JC); Mike Estes, LB (JC); John Foster, LB (JC); Michael Fother, CB (transfer/Texas A&M); Sean Harper, LB (JC); Kevin Harris, DB (JC); Avery Miller, LB (JC); Tyrice Roderick, DB (JC); Ken Rogers, TE (JC); Kyle Toomer, RB (JC).

Schedule: At Baylor, Sept. 3; Fullerton State, Sept. 17; Ohio University, Sept. 24; at Ne-

braska, Oct. 1; at Pacific, Oct. 8; New Mexico State, Oct. 15; Tulsa, Oct. 29; at Utah State, Nov. 5; Fresno State, Nov. 12; San Jose State, Nov. 19; at Long Beach State, Nov. 26.

Nevada-Las Vegas Coach Wayne Nunnely is parting from an imaginative defense that employed two "wreckers," two "forcers," a "5-back" and a "stud." By switching to a 3-4, he's hoping to make up for the loss of color with a greater pass rush.

But he needs players before a new philosophy will work. Lineman Doc Wise and backs Al Hemmans, Ken Tucker, Charles Anthony and Tyrone Carter are the only defensive starters back from last season, so Nunnely went to the junior college ranks for seven linebackers.

He also went looking for a big fullback to replace Ickey Woods, who led the nation by rushing for 1,658 yards last season. Returning tailback Tommy Jackson and junior college transfer Kyle Toomer, a 26-year-old with military experience, should ease the pain.

"Kyle is dedicated to the next two years," Nunnely said. "He knows this is his pro football."

Sophomore Scott Sims has unseated Richard Williams as the No. 1 quarterback.

Sims and the Runnin' Rebels' backs will get adequate protection from tight end Cedric Davis, an outstanding blocker, and standout linemen Patrick Harden and Bill Operlin. ■

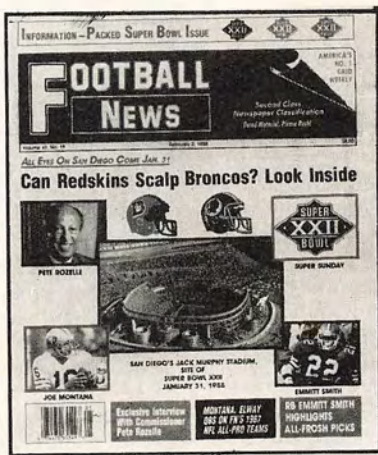
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Smith has Trojans poised for 2nd straight title

By DON BORST
Tacoma News Tribune

Whether he likes to admit it or not, Larry Smith is ahead of schedule at Southern California.

Smith had no business winning the Pacific-10 Conference championship last season even before getting settled into his Heritage Hall office, just as he has no business being mentioned as a national championship contender in 1988.

But Smith has the Trojans poised to win back-to-back conference championships for the first time since 1978-79. When the 1980s began, USC had captured 10 of the previous 14 championships, including a claim to four national titles, and the team's rapid ascendancy under Smith has the Trojan faithful trumpeting a return to such lofty heights.

Perhaps. But picking a defending champion to repeat is easier than actually turning the trick—even with 15 returning starters, including a third baseman who just might win the Heisman Trophy.

SOUTHERN CAL

Coach: Larry Smith (8-4, 1 year; 74-59-3 overall, 12 years).

1987 Record: 7-1/T1st; 8-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Dave Cadigan, OT; Greg Coquette, CB; Marcus Cotton, LB; Keith Davis, LB; John Katnik, C; Bill Stokes, LB; Randy Tanner, FL.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Erik Affholter, SE, 6-1/190, Sr.; Paul Green, TE, 6-3/230, Sr. (injured knee in spring); John Guerrero, T, 6-4/310, Sr.; Leroy Holt, FB, 6-0/215, Jr. (missed spring practice/academics); Brent Parkinson, T, 6-6/255, Jr. (switched from G); Rodney Peete, QB, 6-2/195, Sr.; Mark Tucker, G, 6-3/260, Soph.; Steven Webster, TB, 5-10/185, Sr. (status questionable/knee). **Defense (7):** Mark Carrier, S, 6-1/180, Soph.; Cleveland Colter, S, 6-1/195, Jr.; Don Gibson, NG, 6-3/250, Soph.; Chris Hale, S, 5-9/170, Sr. (switched from CB); Dan Owens, DG, 6-4/255, Jr.; Scott Ross, LB, 6-2/215, Soph.; Tim Ryan, T, 6-5/250, Jr.

Key Returnees: Tracy Butts, CB, Sr.; Delmar Chesley, LB, Jr.; Aaron Emanuel, TB, Jr. (RS/suspended in 1987 for team violations); Chuck Ebertin, C, Jr.; Ricky Ervins, TB, Soph.; Dwayne Garner, CB, Jr.; Craig Hart-suyker, LB, Soph.; John Jackson, FL, Jr.; Brad Leggett, C, Jr.; Scott Lockwood, TB, Soph.; Quin Rodriguez, K, Soph.; Mark Sager, OT, Sr.; Bill Schultz, OG, Jr. (RS/switched from OT); Ernest Spears, CB, Jr.; Chris Sperle, P, Sr.; Brian Tulliau, LB, Soph.; Marlon Washington, WR, Jr.; Gary Wellman, FL, Soph.; Michael Williams, LB, Jr. **Top Newcomers:** Kurt Barber, LB; Ron Dale, P/K; Matt Gee, LB; Lamont Hollingquest, DB; Randy Hord, DG (JC/injured shoulder in spring); Todd Marinovich, QB; Stephen Pace, DB; Marvin Pollard, CB (RS); Junior Seau, LB (Prop 48).

Schedule: At Boston College, Sept. 1; at Stanford, Sept. 10; Oklahoma, Sept. 24; at Arizona, Oct. 1; Oregon, Oct. 8; Washington, Oct. 15; at Oregon State, Oct. 29; California, Nov. 5; at Arizona State, Nov. 12; at UCLA, Nov. 19; Notre Dame, Nov. 26.



TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The best defense in the conference will carry the Trojans back to Pasadena.

2. WASHINGTON

With a few breaks, the Huskies might be playing for the national crown.

3. UCLA

Thanks to Aikman, the Bruins remain a threat despite many question marks.

4. ARIZONA

Never count out the Wildcats, who are deep at the offensive skill positions.

5. OREGON

With better play from the trenchmen, the bowl-bound Ducks could surprise.

6. ARIZONA STATE

Inexperienced Sun Devils are one year away from burning up the conference.

7. STANFORD

The Cardinal lacks depth and experience at the offensive skill positions.

8. CALIFORNIA

The Bears are on the rebound. Taylor is an exceptionally gifted quarterback.

9. WASHINGTON STATE

The Cougars can be competitive, but defensive and depth problems abound.

10. OREGON STATE

The Beavers are improving but, unfortunately, so is the opposition.

Southern Cal quarterback Rodney Peete, the Trojans' slugging third baseman, leads an offense that returns eight starters. The springtime was not particularly settling for Larry Smith, who was forced to watch backups perform daily at six positions because of injuries, academic problems—and baseball.

But the extra work helped the progress of tailback Scott Lockwood, who will be called on often with or without league-leading rusher Steven Webster (1,109 yards last fall). But with his recuperation from knee surgery ahead of schedule, Webster is expected to be ready. Fullback Leroy Holt makes USC's ground game that much stronger.

Paul Green may be the best all-around tight end in the West, and sophomore guard Mark Tucker is being touted as an "All-America someday." Tucker's side-kicks on the line, which will miss consensus All-America tackle Dave Cadigan, will be any number of seven or eight players who can stay healthy for a while. Injuries destroyed any sense of continuity in the spring, and Smith went into the fall more than a little concerned.

"Our biggest problem is protection," he said, and with nothing but raw greenery behind Peete, protecting USC's all-time passing leader is critical.

Given the time to keep a play alive, Peete has a knack for making something

big out of it. He also has big play receivers Erik Affholter and John Jackson at his disposal to complete the gains.

Yet, it is the defense that is expected to carry the Trojans back to the Rose Bowl.

"I think we'll have an extremely strong defense," Smith said. "It works better as a group and tackles better than a year ago."

Returning is the entire line, led by tackle Tim Ryan, and three-fourths of the secondary, where safeties Mark Carrier and Cleveland Colter are tremendous. Three linebackers must be replaced, but all of the candidates have starting experience.

WASHINGTON

Coach: Don James (108-43-2, 13 years; 133-62-3 overall, 17 years).

1987 Record: 4-3-1/3rd; 6-4-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Bill Ames, TE (injured knee in spring, out for season); Brandy Brownlee, K/P; Chris Chandler, QB; Tom Erlandson, LB; Darryl Franklin, SE; Brian Habib, MG; Rick McLeod, OT; David Rill, LB; Bo Yates, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Bern Brostek, C, 6-2/285, Jr.; Aaron Jenkins, FB, 6-0/233, Sr.; Kelly John-Lewis, G, 6-8/304, Sr.; Brian Slater, FL, 6-4/195, Sr.; Vince Weathersby, TB, 5-11/202, Sr.; Brett Wiese, G, 6-3/280, Sr.; Mike Zandofsky, T, 6-2/299, Sr. **Defense (7):** Ricky Andrews, LB, 6-3/220, Sr. (switched from S); Dennis Brown, T, 6-4/302, Jr.; Darryl Hall, S, 6-2/201, Sr.; Martin Harrison, LB, 6-5/230, Jr.; Le-Lo Lang, CB, 5-11/184, Jr.; Art Malone, CB, 5-10/180, Sr.; Travis Richardson, E, 6-4/240, Soph.

Key Returnees: Eugene Burkhalter, S, Soph.; Cary Conklin, QB, Jr.; Adam Cooney, OT, Soph.; Tony Covington, RB, Sr.; Marc Goudreau, LB (RS); David Hawkins, LB, Jr.; Art Hunter, MG, Jr.; Scott Jones, OT, Sr. (switched from TE); Steve Jones, RB/WR, Sr.; Mark Kilpack, TE, Soph.; Dean Kirkland, OG, Jr.; Jeff Kohlwees, MG, Soph.; Greg Lewis, TB, Soph.; Jeff Pahukoa, OG, Soph.; Andre Riley, SE, Jr.; Greg Travis, LB, Jr.; Bob Willig, DE, Sr.; Tony Zuckery, CB, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Corey Brown, LB (RS); Mark Brunell, QB; Chico Fraley, LB (RS); Dana Hall, S (RS); Donald Jones, OG, Soph.; Mike Lustyk, DT; Damon Mack, WR; Troy McNair, P (JC); Aaron Pierce, TE (RS); Ivory Randle, CB (RS).

Schedule: At Purdue, Sept. 10; Army, Sept. 17; San Jose State, Sept. 24; UCLA, Oct. 1; at Arizona State, Oct. 8; at Southern California, Oct. 15; at Oregon, Oct. 22; Stanford, Oct. 29; Arizona, Nov. 5; California, Nov. 12; at Washington State, Nov. 19.

The Huskies are the only team in the league without a returning starter at quarterback, but the best and most experienced offensive line in the league and one of the better rushing attacks should help make it easier on junior Cary Conklin.

Conklin's planned redshirt season went down the drain when starter Chris Chandler was injured and missed the Huskies' last three regular-season games. Now, however, Coach Don James is grateful that Conklin has had game experience.

Still, James will try to make life simpler for Conklin. Expect a return to normalcy on offense—a pounding rushing attack with some play-action passing mixed in. Workmanlike backs Vince Weathersby, Aaron Jenkins and Tony Covington con-

sistently take what is offered by the line, where second-team All-America tackle Mike Zandofsky and three other starters return.

When Conklin does go airborne, his best target will be flanker Brian Slater.

The defense is a reversal of the 1987 unit, which counted heavily on experienced linebackers. This unit, with seven returning starters, will have to make up for little experience at linebacker, but better speed and depth has defensive coordinator Jim Lambright optimistic.

Tackle Dennis Brown may be the most dominant defensive lineman in the league, and the secondary appears to be a strength, too. If the young linebackers come along, the Washington defense may be outstanding by midseason.

To get back to the Rose Bowl for the first time since the 1981 season, however, the Huskies must improve their special-teams play, which, atypically, was the worst in the conference last year.

"We have got to get the feeling of importance back in our kicking game," James said in retooling his special teams, which had a 33.5-yard net punting average (three blocked) and missed its last five field-goal attempts of the regular season. "We can't let it be a liability."

UCLA

Coach: Terry Donahue (98-36-7, 12 years).
1987 Record: 7-1/T1st; 9-2 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Willie Anderson, SE; Paco Craig, FL; Alan Dial, S; Mel Farr, FB; Jeff Glasser, DT; Gaston Green, TB; Melvin Jackson, LB; John Kidder, OG; Ken Norton, LB; Dennis Price, CB; David Richards, OT; Terry Tumey, NG; Russ Warnick, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Troy Aikman, QB, 6-3/217, Sr.; Charles Arbuckle, TE, 6-2/233, Jr.; Frank Cornish, C, 6-4/265, Jr.; Rick Meyer, G, 6-6/274, Jr. **Defense (4):** Darryl Henley, CB, 5-10/165, Sr.; Chance Johnson, LB, 6-1/235, Sr.; Carnell Lake, LB, 6-0/204, Sr.; Jim Wahler, NG, 6-4/263, Sr. (switched from DT).

Key Returnees: Corwin Anthony, TE, Soph.; Eric Ball, TB, Sr.; Brian Brown, TB, Soph.; Anthony Burnett, S, Soph.; Mark Estwick, FB, Soph.; Mike Farr, SE, Jr.; Doug Kline, LB, Sr.; Mike Lodish, DT, Jr.; Brendan McCracken, FL, Sr. (switched from QB); Mark McGill, S, Jr.; Reggie Moore, WR, Soph.; Marcus Patton, LB, Jr.; Billy Ray, LB, Sr. (missed 10 games/leg); Eric Smith, LB, Sr. (RS/back); Eric Turner, S, Sr.; Marcus Turner, CB, Sr.; Alfredo Velasco, K, Jr.; Lance Zeno, OG, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Jimmy Bonds, QB (RS); Matt Darby, S (RS); Fred Gilbert, WR; Dion Lambert, CB (RS); Bret Johnson, QB; James Rae, OG (RS); Kevin Smith, FB (RS); Scott Spaulding, OG (RS); Kevin Williams, TB.

Schedule: San Diego State, Sept. 3; Nebraska, Sept. 10; Long Beach State, Sept. 17; at Washington, Oct. 1; Oregon State, Oct. 8; at California, Oct. 15; at Arizona, Oct. 22; Washington State, Oct. 29; at Oregon, Nov. 5; Stanford, Nov. 12; Southern Cal, Nov. 19.

It's difficult to believe that a wolf could take a bite out of the big, bad Bruins, but UCLA Coach Terry Donahue is sounding the warning again. He's acting worried.

UCLA must replace 14 starters, including second-team All-America tailback Gaston Green, All-America linebacker Ken Norton, all-conference picks Terry Tumey and David Richards, three-fourths



Washington's experienced offensive line and strong rushing attack should make things easier for quarterback Cary Conklin.

of its secondary and six of its top nine receivers. The starting fullback is now walk-on Mark Estwick.

"Sometimes there really is a wolf out there," said Donahue, whose teams have thrived on such threats of mediocrity. "Last year we were able to reload. I wish we could do that this year."

In past years when the Bruins were picked to finish third in the Pac-10 ('82, '83 and '85), they eventually won the Rose Bowl each time. Likewise, the 1988 team is stocked with talent, albeit inexperienced. And the Bruins have the best arm in the country—that of second-team All-America quarterback Troy Aikman.

"We have a great quarterback," said Donahue, whose team has won a record-tying six straight bowl games. "He's truly outstanding, and he's getting better. I think he'll be the first player selected in the NFL draft next year, but this year, we're trying to replace a lot of senior leadership and a lot of NFL talent."

The Bruins have good talent at tailback in Eric Ball and Brian Brown. Fine tight end Charles Arbuckle is the top receiver, and there's still a chance that split end Mike Farr could recover from off-season leg surgery in time to help.

The biggest problem offensively is up front, where center Frank Cornish and guard Rick Meyer are the only returning starters.

The defense should be solid again. Noseguard Jim Wahler anchors the line, while second-team All-America Carnell Lake and Chance Johnson will be rejoined at linebacker by Eric Smith, who missed last season with back surgery. The sec-

ondary is led by excellent cornerbacks Darryl Henley and Marcus Turner.

UCLA also returns all-league kicker Alfredo Velasco, who connected on 18 of 22 field-goal attempts last fall.

ARIZONA

Coach: Dick Tomey (4-4-3, 1 year, 67-50-6 overall, 11 years).

1987 Record: 2-3-3/7th; 4-4-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: Gallen Allen, LB; Jerry Beasley, LB; Chuck Cecil, S; Blake Custer, LB; Jeff Fairholm, WR; Reggie Gaddis, DT (quit team); Boomer Gibson, LB; George Hinkle, DT; Randy Kindred, S; Tom Lynch, OT; Kevin McKinney, OG; Jeff Rinehart, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): John Brandon, G, 6-3/258, Jr.; Art Greathouse, HB, 5-11/203, Jr.; Derek Hill, WR, 6-2/189, Sr.; Darryl Lewis, HB, 5-9/184, Soph.; Joe Tofflemire, C, 6-2/266, Sr.; Ronald Veal, QB, 5-10/197, Soph.; Alonzo Washington, FB, 5-11/208, Sr. **Defense (4):** James DeBow, S, 5-10/196, Sr.; Durrell Jones, CB, 5-10/178, Jr.; Chris Singleton, LB, 6-3/232, Jr.; Dana Wells, NG, 6-1/261, Sr.

Key Returnees: Gary Coston, K, Jr.; Jeff Hammerschmidt, S, Soph.; Brad Henke, DT, Sr.; Bret Holley, P, Sr.; Kip Lewis, WR, Jr. (RS); Reggie McGill, HB, Soph.; Doug Pritchard, OG, Jr. (RS); Kevin Singleton, LB, Jr.; Melvin Smith, WR, Jr.; Bobby Watters, QB, Sr. (missed eight games/thumb); Rob Woods, OT, Sr.

Top Newcomers: John Fina, DT (RS); Nick Fineangonofu, DT (RS); Robert Flory, OT (JC); Scott Geyer, CB (JC); Craig Gilbert, LB (RS); Mario Hampton, FB (RS); Reggie Johnson, LB (JC); Marcus Lester, TE (JC/Iowa State); Arnulf Mobley, LB (Prop 48); Glen Parker, OT (JC); Doug Pfaff, P/K (RS); Pete Russell, OG (JC); Odel Stewart, LB (RS); Paul Tofflemire, OG (RS); Jimmy Tucker, CB (RS); Marcel Wade, LB.

Schedule: At Oregon State, Sept. 3; Texas Tech, Sept. 10; at Oklahoma, Sept. 17; Eastern Michigan, Sept. 24; Southern Cal, Oct. 1; Washington State, Oct. 15; UCLA, Oct. 22; California, Oct. 29; at Washington, Nov. 5; Oregon, Nov. 12; Arizona State, Nov. 26.

With experience at quarterback and the best and deepest stable of running backs in the league, Coach Dick Tomey plans to show the Arizona faithful what the wacky, explosive, run-and-shoot-and-wishbone offense really looks like. At times in '87, inexperience and injuries made it resemble the hike-and-wish.

Senior Bobby Watters, who was injured in the third game of 1987, and sophomore Ronald Veal, who was outstanding at running the option, shaky at the run-and-shoot, will get the ball to teammates in the open field via either the option or roll-out pass. Eight of the top nine ballcarriers return, led by halfbacks Art Greathouse, Darryl Lewis and Reggie McGill and fullback Alonzo Washington.

"I think we'll see a quantum leap in our passing game over last year," Tomey said. "We'll be in sync. Remember, the guys that ran our offense last season didn't even have the spring to learn it."

All-Pac-10 wide receiver Derek Hill is the top big-play performer in the league.

"Our offense gives Derek a great chance to get away from double-coverage," Tomey said. "And I'll guarantee you, he'll be tired when the game is over be-

Continued

cause we're going to use him a lot of ways."

Arizona's offensive line, however, must be rebuilt around all-league center Joe Tofflemire.

Defensively, there is much work to be done behind a solid-looking line. Nose-guard Dana Wells was voted by Pac-10 offensive linemen as the top defensive lineman in the league, and Brad Henke is a capable tackle.

But the top three inside linebackers from last season do not return and the secondary is suspect, with only safety James DeBow and cornerback Durrell Jones returning. Consensus All-America safety Chuck Cecil will be missed.

OREGON

Coach: Rich Brooks (46-71-4, 11 years).

1987 Record: 4-4/T4th; 6-5 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: J.J. Birden, SE; Ron Gould, CB; Eric Hunter, OT; Anthony Newman, S; Tim Parker, TE; Rollin Putzier, NT; Jeff Stefanick, OT; Tom Talbot, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Latin Berry, FB, 5-10/189, Jr.; Gary Gilbert, C, 6-5/253, Sr.; Chris Husko, G, 6-3/252, Jr.; Derek Loville, TB, 5-10/196, Jr.; Bill Musgrave, QB, 6-3/192, Soph.; Terry Obee, FL, 5-11/183, Jr.; Andy Sunia, G, 5-11/273, Soph. **Defense (7):** Mike Blakey, LB, 6-2/214, Sr.; Matt Brock, E, 6-5/257, Sr.; Devin FitzPatrick, E, 6-4/247, Jr.; Thom Kaumeyer, S, 6-0/187, Sr.; Mark Kearns, LB, 6-2/216, Jr.; Scott Kozak, LB, 6-3/218, Sr.; Brett Young, CB, 5-10/181, Jr.

Key Returnees: Leroy Ale, LB, Jr.; Sam Archer, WR, Sr. (RS); David Cusano, NT, Sr.; Kirk Dennis, K, Sr.; Jon Eichinger, DE, Jr.; Tony Hargain, WR, Soph.; Derek Horton, S, Jr.; Bjarne Jensen, LB, Sr.; Todd Kunzman, OT, Sr.; Joe Meerten, TE, Jr.; Pete Nelson, QB, Jr.; Chris Oldham, CB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Dondre Bausley, TB (JC); Curt Dykes, OG (JC); Steve Kemp, CB (RS); Antoine Mitchell, DE (JC); Daryl Reed, CB (RS).

Schedule: Long Beach State, Sept. 10; at Washington State, Sept. 17; Stanford, Sept. 24; at San Diego State, Oct. 1; at Southern California, Oct. 8; Idaho State, Oct. 15; Washington, Oct. 22; Arizona State, Oct. 29; UCLA, Nov. 5; at Arizona, Nov. 12; at Oregon State, Nov. 19; at Hawaii, Dec. 3.

Oregon Coach Rich Brooks and his staff have been building toward a breakthrough season, and this should be it. Brooks has talent and a favorable schedule, which should translate into the Ducks' first bowl game since 1963.

After beating Washington and USC on successive weekends last season, Oregon won't be able to sneak up on anyone in 1988. But the Ducks may not need to.

Although they lose their best two players of '87—nose tackle Rollin Putzier and safety Anthony Newman—the Ducks return seven starters on defense, including outstanding end Matt Brock and two of the league's better outside linebackers in Scott Kozak and Mike Blakey. Those three players accounted for 26 tackles for loss and 12 quarterback sacks last season.

Offensively, seven starters return, along with part-time starters at three

other positions. Bill Musgrave ranks as arguably the top sophomore quarterback in the country, and only seven returning passers were more efficient than he was last season. Although his arm strength continues to be questioned, Musgrave hit some deep balls that forced opponents to respect that threat—until he was injured and the Ducks had to close down the offense the last three games.

The key for the Ducks is how much their rushing game improves. The situation is better than it has been in eons, with Derek Loville and Latin Berry returning and junior college transfer Dondre Bausley projected as a quick contributor.

Three starters return to the offensive line, which has better depth than Brooks has ever enjoyed at Oregon.

The Ducks must start strongly. Unlike a year ago, when they opened against seven eventual bowl teams, the easy part of their schedule comes early.

ARIZONA STATE

Coach: Larry Marmie (first year at Arizona State).

1987 Record: 3-3-1/T4th; 7-4-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Eric Allen, CB; Trace Armstrong, DT (transfer/Florida); Greg Clark, LB; Aaron Cox, SE; Mark Duckens, NG; Darryl Harris, TB; Todd Kalis, OG; Randall McDaniel, OG; Shawn Patterson, DT; Pat Taylor, DE; Channing Williams, FB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Daniel Ford, QB, 6-2/209, Sr.; Tony Johnson, FL, 5-11/180, Sr.; Scott Kirby, T, 6-6/284, Sr.; Gary Knudson, TE, 6-4/246, Sr.; Steve Spurling, C, 6-2/270, Sr.; Fedel Underwood, T, 6-4/299, Jr. **Defense (5):** Robby Boyd, S, 6-2/225, Sr.; Eric Crawford, CB, 5-10/175, Soph.; Jeff Mahlstede, S, 6-3/195, Sr.; Drew Metcalf, LB, 6-2/223, Soph.; Saute Sapolu, DE, 6-3/255, Sr. (switched from NG).

Key Returnees: Victor Cahoon, TB, Soph.; Scott Claypoole, OG, Sr.; Rodney Dillard, LB, Sr.; Floyd Fields, S, Soph.; Chris Garrett, FL, Sr.; Eddie Grant, OG, Sr.; Jeff Joseph, CB, Sr. (RS/knee); Lynn James, FL, Jr.; Paul Justin, QB, Soph.; Nathan LaDuke, S, Soph. (missed four games/knee); Mike Schuh, P, Sr.; Tony Sherman, OG, Jr.; Mark Tingstad, LB, Jr.; Michael Simmons, OT, Soph.; Scott Veach, TE, Jr.; Kirk Wendorf, FB, Sr.; David Winsley, TB, Soph.; Alan Zendejas, K, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Don Chuhlantseff, NG (JC); Shane Collins, DE (RS); Kelvin Fisher, FB (RS); Lawrence Hubley, CB (JC); Arnold Laws, DB; Bruce Perkins, TB (JC); Leonard Russell, TB (Prop 48); Mark Smith, DB (JC); Eddie Stokes, CB (JC); Scott Walker, LB (JC).

Schedule: Illinois, Sept. 10; Colorado State, Sept. 17; at Nebraska, Sept. 24; Lamar, Oct. 1; Washington, Oct. 8; at Stanford, Oct. 15; at Washington State, Oct. 22; at Oregon, Oct. 29; Oregon State, Nov. 5; Southern California, Nov. 12; at Arizona, Nov. 26.

Who'll Fill Green's Shoes?



We take you to January 1, 1986. . .

In the second quarter of the Rose Bowl against Iowa, UCLA tailback Gaston Green yanks a hamstring out of whack. Coach Terry Donahue looks down the bench, sends in the freshman, and the rest is history. Eric Ball proceeds to rush for 227 yards and four touchdowns in the Bruins' 45-28 triumph.

Now it's October 31, 1987. . .

In the first quarter of a key Pacific-10 Conference game at Arizona State, Green is sidelined with another injury. Donahue

looks down the bench, sends in the freshman, and the rest is history. Brian Brown rushes for 134 yards and two TDs in UCLA's 31-23 triumph.

Ball and Brown have spent their careers in the shadow of the No. 1 running back in UCLA history, but now that Gaston Green has departed, their future is now. Last season they combined for 716 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"UCLA has three of the best tailbacks in the league," Washington Coach Don James said last season.



Eric Ball

For 1988, then, UCLA has only two of the best—along with promising freshmen Kevin Williams and Shawn Wills.

"We feel good about our situation," running backs coach Ted Williams said. "We have players with experience who are still very hungry, and we feel we have good young talent, too. . . . Eric has excellent size and power and experience, and Brian has the raw athletic ability that makes him potentially a great overall back."

This season is Ball's last chance to show consistency after being slowed by various injuries since his Rose Bowl MVP performance. He gained 476 yards as a redshirt freshman in 1985 but slipped to 104 yards in '86 and 324 yards last season. Brown, on the other hand, has three years ahead to improve upon his 392-yard effort as a redshirt freshman last year.

"These guys know what to do," Williams said. "They have had some success, and now they aren't going to be content watching each other."

—DON BORST

Marmie with a tough act to follow.

Quarterback Daniel Ford returns after surviving a couple of benchings last season to eventually have his best game in the Sun Devils' Freedom Bowl victory over Air Force. Without the two-year tandem of Harris and Channing Williams around anymore, the running back spots will be manned by a committee, likely co-chaired by tailback Victor Cahoon and fullback Kirk Wendorf.

Safety Robby Boyd and outside line-backer Rodney Dillard have been solid, but they need to become big-play types for the defense to succeed. Saute Sapolu is the only defensive lineman with significant experience.

Injuries pressed a number of freshmen into action last year, especially on defense, where Nathan LaDuke, Eric Crawford, Floyd Fields and Terence Johnson offer reason for future optimism.

In the Sun Devils' favor is the schedule: USC and Washington at home, and no UCLA at all.

STANFORD

Coach: Jack Elway (22-23, 4 years; 77-54-2, 12 years).

1987 Record: 4-4/T4th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Kurt Colehower, LB; Brad Humphreys, S; Jeff James, WR; Brad Muster, RB; Bruce Richardson, S; Sean Scheller, DT; Eric Snelson, TE.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Chuck Gillingham, G, 6-4/260, Soph.; Brian Johnson, QB, 6-2/185, Soph.; Ed McCaffrey, WR, 6-6/220, Jr.; Andy Papathanassiou, G, 6-4/260, Jr.; Andy Sinclair, C, 6-3/280, Sr.; Jon Summers, T, 6-4/265, Sr.; Jon Volpe, RB, 5-7/195, Soph.; John Zentner, T, 6-5/282, Sr. **Defense (7):** Lester Archambeau, T, 6-5/250, Jr.; Alan Grant, CB, 5-10/187, Jr.; Rob Hinkley, LB, 6-5/240, Jr.; Ray Huckestein, NG, 6-2/255, Sr.; Kevin Richardson, LB, 6-3/228, Sr.; Kevin Scott, CB, 5-10/175, Soph.; Jono Tunney, LB, 6-2/230, Soph.

Key Returnees: Walter Batson, WR, Soph.; Robbie Coffin, OT, Sr.; Brad Cook, CB, Sr.; Rob Englehardt, S, Jr.; Scott Escheiman, RB, Jr.; Henry Green, WR, Sr.; John Hopkins, K, Soph.; Mike Kohlmoos, OT, Soph. (missed spring practice/back); Bruce Lang, LB, Jr.; Barry McKeever, LB, Sr. (missed spring practice/knee); Dan Nash, OG/C, Soph.; Jim Price, TE, Jr.; Buck Roggeman, NG, Jr.; Rick Theder, S, Sr.; Chris Walsh, WR (RS); Charlie Young, RB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Turner Baur, TE (RS); Cory Booker, WR (RS); Galen Foster, RB (RS); Tuan Van Le, CB (RS); Jason Palumbis, QB (RS); Jon Pinckney, WR (RS); Chuck Robinson, LB (RS); Tony Trousset, S (RS); Tommy Vardell, RB (RS).

Schedule: Southern Cal, Sept. 10; San Diego State, Sept. 17; at Oregon, Sept. 24; at Notre Dame, Oct. 1; San Jose State, Oct. 8; Arizona State, Oct. 15; Oregon State, Oct. 22; at Washington, Oct. 29; Washington State, Nov. 5; at UCLA, Nov. 12; at California, Nov. 19.

Stanford Coach Jack Elway is tinkering with the run-and-shoot offense. A dearth of running backs, coupled with a host of wide receivers and a quarterback who moves well, prompted Elway to search for new and exciting ways to move the ball.

"We're experimenting with phases of the run-and-shoot, and we'll determine later how much of it we will use," said Elway, who has long been partial to sin-

gle-back formations. But without somebody like Brad Muster to put behind the quarterback, why bother with handoffs?

Whatever Elway decides, he will have experience at eight offensive positions, which would be great if the three who departed hadn't been three of the best: Muster, wide receiver Jeff James and tight end Eric Snelson. Still, center Andy Sinclair leads a veteran offensive line and sophomore quarterback Brian Johnson has a large group of decent receivers.

Johnson was third in line at quarterback in 1987, but when Greg Ennis struggled and Scott Stark was overmatched, Johnson got the call and was the winning hurler in five of his seven starts. Redshirt freshman Jason Palumbis is expected to put in a bid for the starting job if he can shake a series of muscle pulls.

The defense also has a good deal of experience, but it ranked eighth in the Pacific last season. Lester Archambeau and Ray Huckestein are solid defensive linemen, and all four linebackers have started at times.

The secondary was by far the worst in the league last year and has everyone back except all-league safety Brad Humphreys. Cornerback Alan Grant is a tremendous all-purpose player who led Division I-A in punt returns last fall.

CALIFORNIA

Coach: Bruce Snyder (3-6-2, 1 year; 42-43-3, 8 years).

1987 Record: 2-3-2/T7th; 3-6-2 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Brian Bedford, WR; Ken Harvey, LB; Kam King, OG; Darryl Stallworth, S; Scott Tabor, P.

Starters Returning: Offense (10): Robert Dos Remedios, C, 6-3/280, Sr.; Mike Ford, WR, 6-2/200, Jr.; Darryl Ingram, TE, 6-3/225, Sr.; Stu McEldey, T, 6-4/270, Sr.; Todd Powers, FB, 6-2/230, Sr.; Chris Richards, TB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Michael Smith, WR, 6-1/185, Jr.; Tony Smith, G, 6-3/270, Jr.; Troy Taylor, QB, 6-4/185, Jr.; Dave Zawatsion, T, 6-5/270, Sr. **Defense (9):** Joel Dickson, T, 6-3/245, Jr.; Jeff Ebert, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; John Hardy, CB, 6-0/170, Jr.; Steve Hendrickson, LB, 6-1/250, Sr.; Joe Nelms, T, 6-5/260, Sr.; Travis Oliver, CB, 6-0/175, Jr.; David Ortega, LB, 6-2/225, Jr.; Natu Tuatagaloa, T, 6-4/260, Sr.; Majett Whiteside, NG, 6-2/260, Sr.

Key Returnees: Steve Andersen, OG, Sr. (RS/ankle); Rob Bimson, WR, Sr.; Vince Delgado, WR, Sr. (RS/knee); James Devers, WR, Sr.; Darrin Greer, S, Jr. (switched from CB); Anthony Grandison, LB, Soph.; Tim Hardin, LB, Sr.; Dwayne Jones, S, Jr.; Robbie Keen, K, Soph.; DeWayne Odom, LB, Soph.; Ernie Rogers, C, Soph. (switched from TE).

Top Newcomers: Mike Beebe, QB; Chris Noonan, K; Doug Parrish, S (JC); Junior Tagaloa, WR (JC); Mack Travis, NG; Bruce Vidmar, LB (JC).

Schedule: Pacific, Sept. 10; at Oregon State, Sept. 17; Kansas, Sept. 24; San Jose State, Oct. 1; at Washington State, Oct. 8; UCLA, Oct. 15; Temple, Oct. 22; at Arizona, Oct. 29; at Southern California, Nov. 5; at Washington, Nov. 12; Stanford, Nov. 19.

California has the best quarterback in the league who is not a Heisman candidate. Troy Taylor passed for 231.2 yards per game and had the Golden Bears poised for a respectable season before missing the last two games with a broken finger.

"It's been said that the most important player on your team is your quarterback, and the second-most important is your backup quarterback," Coach Bruce Snyder said. "We found that to be true last year."

Without Taylor, who had led victories over Oregon and Arizona State the two previous games, the Cal offense bogged down badly.

Taylor will work with the league's best group of wide receivers, including junior Mike Ford, junior college transfer Junior Tagaloa and former standout Vince Delgado, who has recovered from knee surgery that cost him last season. Another good target is tight end Darryl Ingram.

The offensive line, which had trouble protecting Taylor at times (31 sacks), returns 80 percent intact. Tailback Chris Richards opened 1987 with three consecutive 100-yard games but then battled injuries the rest of the way, finishing with 668 yards.

The defense was improved but less-than-inspiring in 1987, and if Snyder can solve a double problem at safety, it could jump another notch. Majett Whiteside, Joel Dickson and Joe Nelms rush the passer well, and inside linebacker David Ortega is solid and consistent. Cornerback John Hardy stands out in the secondary.

Like Oregon, Cal must strike early. The schedule gets tougher as the season goes on, and five of Cal's seven league games are on the road.

WASHINGTON STATE

Coach: Dennis Erickson (3-7-1, 1 year; 41-28-1 overall, 6 years).

1987 Record: 1-5-1/9th; 3-7-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Kevin Adams, K (quit team); Richard Calvin, RB; Brian Forde, LB; James Hasty, CB; Chris Leighton, TE.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Steve Broussard, RB, 5-7/205, Jr.; Chris Dyko, T, 6-6/271, Sr.; John Husby, T, 6-4/260, Jr.; Jim Michalczik, G, 6-3/262, Sr.; Tim Rosenbach, QB, 6-2/210, Jr.; Tim Stallworth, SE, 5-10/183, Jr.; Mike Utley, G, 6-6/302, Sr.; Victor Wood, FL, 5-10/162, Sr.; Paul Wulff, C, 6-4/265, Sr. **Defense (9):** Tuineau Alipate, LB, 6-2/238, Sr.; Ivan Cook, E, 6-3/243, Sr.; Tim Downing, T, 6-5/243, Jr.; Randy Gray, E, 6-6/257, Jr.; Artie Holmes, S, 6-0/203, Sr.; Shawn Landrum, CB, 5-10/186, Sr.; Maury Metcalf, LB, 6-2/223, Sr.; Tony Savage, T, 6-4/274, Jr.; Vernon Todd, CB, 5-10/166, Sr. (switched from S).

Key Returnees: Steve Cromer, OG, Soph. (switched from DT); Mark Ledbetter, DT, Jr. (missed '87/back); Ronnie Lee, S, Sr. (RS/leg); Rob Myers, P, Jr.; Rodd Olson, TE, Jr.; Bob O'Neal, LB, Sr.; William Pellum, SE, Sr.; Elmer Thomas, FL, Sr.; Ed Tingstad, RB, Sr. (RS/shoulder); Vernon Todd, CB, Sr.; Doug Wellsandt, TE, Jr.; Michael Wimberly, SE, Sr.; Jeron Woodley, DT, Soph. (switched from E).

Top Newcomers: Darryl Beard, LB (RS); Bob Garman, DT (RS); Dan Grayson, LB (JC); Randy Parker, S (RS); Rod Plummer, LB (RS); Peter Rowe, QB (RS); Kirk Westfield, DE (RS); Michael Wright, CB (RS).

Schedule: At Illinois, Sept. 3; at Minnesota, Sept. 10; Oregon, Sept. 17; at Tennessee, Oct. 1; California, Oct. 8; at Arizona, Oct. 15; Arizona State, Oct. 22; at UCLA, Oct. 29; at Stanford, Nov. 5; Oregon State, Nov. 12; Washington, Nov. 19.

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	ERIK AFFHOLTER, Southern Cal	6-01	190	Senior
WR	*DEREK HILL, Arizona	6-02	189	Senior
WR	ROBB THOMAS, Oregon State	5-11	173	Senior
TE	CHARLES ARBUCKLE, UCLA	6-02	233	Junior
T	CHRIS DYKO, Washington State	6-06	271	Senior
T	MIKE ZANDOSKY, Washington	6-02	299	Senior
C	JOE TOFFLEMIRE, Arizona	6-02	266	Senior
G	MARK TUCKER, Southern Cal	6-03	260	Soph.
G	MIKE UTLEY, Washington State	6-06	302	Senior
QB	TROY AIKMAN, UCLA	6-03	217	Senior
RB	ERIC BALL, UCLA	6-01	216	Senior
RB	LEROY HOLT, Southern Cal	6-00	215	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	JIM WAHLER, UCLA	6-04	263	Senior
DL	MATT BROCK, Oregon	6-05	257	Senior
DL	DENNIS BROWN, Washington	6-04	302	Junior
DL	JOEL DICKSON, California	6-03	245	Junior
DL	TIM RYAN, Southern Cal	6-05	250	Junior
LB	TUINEAU ALIPATE, Washington State	6-02	238	Senior
LB	ROB HINCKLEY, Stanford	6-05	240	Junior
LB	SCOTT KOZAK, Oregon	6-03	218	Senior
LB	CARNELL LAKE, UCLA	6-00	204	Senior
DB	MARK CARRIER, Southern Cal	6-01	180	Soph.
DB	CLEVELAND COLTER, Southern Cal	6-01	195	Junior
DB	JAMES DeBOW, Arizona	5-10	196	Senior
DB	DARRYL HENLEY, UCLA	5-10	165	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	ALFREDO VELASCO, UCLA	5-10	185	Junior
P	MIKE SCHUH, Arizona State	6-01	178	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	MIKE FORD, California	6-02	200	Junior
WR	BRIAN SLATER, Washington	6-04	195	Senior
TE	PAUL GREEN, Southern Cal	6-03	230	Senior
T	SCOTT KIRBY, Arizona State	6-06	284	Senior
T	DAVE ZAWATSON, California	6-05	270	Senior
C	ANDY SINCLAIR, Stanford	6-03	280	Senior
G	CHRIS HUSKO, Oregon	6-03	252	Junior
G	RICK MEYER, UCLA	6-06	274	Junior
QB	RODNEY PEETE, Southern Cal	6-02	195	Senior
RB	STEVE BROUSSARD, Washington State	5-07	205	Junior
RB	DEREK LOVILLE, Oregon	5-10	196	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	MAJETT WHITESIDE, California	6-02	260	Senior
NG	DANA WELLS, Arizona	6-01	261	Senior
DL	LESTER ARCHAMBEAU, Stanford	6-05	250	Junior
DL	IVAN COOK, Washington State	6-03	243	Senior
DL	RAY HUCKESTEIN, Stanford	6-02	255	Senior
LB	MIKE BLAKEY, Oregon	6-02	214	Senior
LB	MARTIN HARRISON, Washington	6-05	230	Junior
LB	CHANCE JOHNSON, UCLA	6-01	235	Senior
LB	DAVID ORTEGA, California	6-02	225	Junior
DB	ROBBY BOYD, Arizona State	6-02	225	Senior
DB	EUGENE BURKHALTER, Washington	6-01	188	Soph.
DB	*ALAN GRANT, Stanford	5-10	187	Junior
DB	DARRYL HALL, Washington	6-02	201	Senior
DB	JOHN HARDY, California	6-00	170	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	KIRK DENNIS, Oregon	5-11	165	Senior
P	ROB MYERS, Washington State	6-01	199	Junior

* Selected as All-Purpose player.



Dyko



Tucker



Utley



Brock



Brown



Ryan



Kozak



DeBow

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Webster, USC	239	1109	6
Green, UCLA	206	1098	11
Harris, Arizona State	189	855	7
Calvin, Washington St. ..	180	822	4
Williams, Arizona State..	118	697	8
Weathersby, Wash	146	682	2
Richards, California	156	668	8
Jenkins, Washington	129	668	5
Loville, Oregon	165	591	8
Muster, Stanford.....	119	543	7

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Aikman, UCLA	243	159	163.6
Peete, USC	291	175	146.5
Musgrave, Oregon	234	139	136.8
Taylor, California	278	169	136.4
Nelson, Oregon	51	31	131.1
Johnson, Stanford	203	112	122.7
Veal, Arizona	153	75	113.9
Chandler, Washington.....	249	128	113.2
Wilhelm, Oregon State	423	226	111.1
Ford, Arizona State	227	112	107.9

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Broussard, Wash. St.	59	701	3
Thomas, Oregon State	58	891	10
Ross, Oregon State	56	625	3
James, Stanford.....	42	516	3
Taylor, Oregon State	49	364	1
Hill, Arizona	45	798	4
Anderson, UCLA.....	44	851	6
Franklin, Washington.....	43	712	3
Affholter, USC	42	632	4
Leighton, Washington St..	38	394	4

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Hill, Arizona	111	1672	152.0
Taylor, Oregon State	183	1559	141.7
Green, UCLA	218	1273	127.3
Webster, USC	253	1241	124.1
Calvin, Washington St. ..	226	1269	115.4
Loville, Oregon	196	1061	106.1
Obee, Oregon	69	1075	97.7
Broussard, Wash. St.	138	1029	93.5
Harris, Arizona State	208	996	90.5
Thomas, Oregon State ..	67	969	88.1

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Robison, Stanford.....	44	2011	45.7
Tabor, California.....	66	2993	45.3
Schuh, Arizona State	61	2595	42.5
Myers, Washington St.	69	2640	38.3
Holley, Arizona	50	1885	37.7

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Grant, Stanford	27	446	16.5
Obee, Oregon	34	410	12.1
Henley, UCLA	24	270	11.2
Hill, Arizona	28	237	8.5
Stallworth, Wash. St.	17	135	7.9

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Velasco, UCLA	22	18	1.64
Dennis, Arizona	22	15	1.36
Coston, Arizona	23	15	1.36
Zendejas, Arizona State	15	13	1.30
Rodriguez, USC	15	12	1.09

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Greer, California	18	510	28.3
Brown, UCLA	12	265	22.1
Winsley, Arizona State	12	260	21.7
Hill, Arizona	29	621	21.4

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Cecil, Arizona.....	9	77	.82
Allen, Arizona State.....	8	185	.73
Humphreys, Stanford.....	7	22	.64

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Dick Tomey, Arizona; Terry Donahue, UCLA.

While Honolulu and Tucson are nice places to visit, they aren't known for their rich athletic traditions. Tomey was 63-56-6 at Hawaii before leaving for Arizona. Donahue accomplished the impossible by slaying the Trojans more often than not.

Most overrated coach: Jack Elway, Stanford.

Best coach: Rich Brooks, Oregon.

Imagine a winning collegiate hockey program in Athens, Ga. That is comparable to attaining success on the gridiron in Eugene. Brooks' teams always prove worthy of their opponents, knocking off a few kingpins along the way. When Donahue decides to depart Westwood, many expect Brooks to travel south.

Best programs: UCLA, Southern California, Washington.

Worst program: Oregon State.

Programs on the rise: Arizona, Arizona State.

The Wildcats will make a bid for the Rose Bowl in 1989 and might capture the crown this year.

Programs on the decline: See most



Underrated: UCLA Coach Terry Donahue

overrated coach.

Most underrated players: Tuineau Alipate, LB, Washington State; Ivan Cook, DE, Washington State; Darryl Ingram, TE, California; James Joseph, CB, Arizona State; Chance Johnson, LB, UCLA; Scott Kozak, LB, Oregon; Scott Kirby, OT, Arizona State; Darryl Lewis, RB, Arizona; Jeff Mahlstede, S, Arizona State; Jim Michalczik, OG, Washington State; Andre Riley, SE, Washington; Chris Singleton, LB, Arizona; Alonzo Washington, FB, Arizona; Vince Weathersby, TB, Washington.

Most overrated players: Rodney Dillard, LB, Arizona State; Natu Tuatagaloa, DT, California; Dana Wells, NG, Arizona; Erik Wilhelm, QB, Oregon State.

Stars on the horizon: Steve Andersen, OG, California; Stacy Argo, LB, UCLA; Eugene Burkhalter, S, Washington; Shane Collins, DE, Arizona State; Matt Darby, S, UCLA; Chico Fraley, LB, Washington; Art Greathouse, HB, Arizona; Glenn Parker, OT, Arizona; Chuck Robinson, LB, Stanford; Junior Seau, LB, Southern California; Junior Tagaloa, WR, California; Jono Tunney, LB, Stanford; Eric Turner, S, UCLA; Doug Well-sandt, TE, Washington State; Kevin Williams, TB, UCLA.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Southern California, Arizona, UCLA; receivers—California, Southern California, Arizona; offensive linemen—Washington, Southern California, Washington State; defensive linemen—Southern California, Washington, California; linebackers—UCLA, Oregon, Arizona; defensive backfield—Southern California, Washington, Arizona State.

Conference snake pits: Arizona State and Washington.

The heat and the rain often make the difference.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Coach Dennis Erickson will see a lot of familiar faces in his second year at Washington State. With 18 returning starters, the Cougars tie Cal as the most experienced team in the conference. Now he just has to get them to play better.

Rough-and-ready quarterback Timm Rosenbach may have typified the Cougars last season, when he accounted for a league-leading 249.4 yards per game of total offense but was intercepted a league-leading 24 times. A year of experience in Erickson's wide-open system should help to reduce the number of interceptions.

"Any time you make a change like that (in the offensive system), it is a difficult change, and that was very apparent last year in a lot of situations," Erickson said. "We have to become sounder offensively ... and stop turning the ball over."

Running back Richard Calvin is gone, but Steve Broussard, the team's primary open-field threat and leading receiver last year, will line up behind Rosenbach much of the time so he can get the ball more often. All the wide receivers return, and Erickson hopes to get more production from them. Only Tim Stallworth (with 26 receptions) caught more than 18 passes.

Mike Utley is the most dominant guard in the league, while Chris Dyko ranks among the better tackles. The rest of the offensive line should be improved.

The defense, however, was awful last year, allowing 32.4 points per game, and standout linebacker Brian Forde is gone

to boot. But nine starters return, most notably linebacker Tuineau Alipate and end Ivan Cook.

OREGON STATE

Coach: Dave Kragthorpe (8-25, 3 years; 32-46 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 0-7/10th; 2-9 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Phil Alfieri, DT; Rich Haggerty, DT; Roland Hawkins, SE; Owen Hoovan, OT; Paul Hopkins, OG; Bronco Mendenhall, LB; Lavance Northington, CB; Dave Orndorff, C; Jeff Schneider, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Ken Kliff, T, 6-7/268, Sr.; Hector Meza, G, 6-0/276, Sr.; Phil Ross, TE, 6-4/220, Jr.; Brian Taylor, TB, 5-10/175, Sr.; Robb Thomas, FL, 5-11/173, Sr.; Erik Wilhelm, QB, 6-3/201, Sr.; Dowell Williams, FB, 6-1/212, Jr. **Defense (5):** Andre Harris, S, 6-0/185, Sr.; Teddy Johnson, S, 5-10/181, Sr.; Brent Mann, LB, 6-3/247, Jr.; Don Odegard, CB, 6-0/185, Sr.; Tom Vetrus, L, 6-3/245, Sr.

Key Returnees: Mike Bailey, OT, Jr.; Mark Bennett, P, Jr.; David Brannon, OG, Sr.; Troy Bussanich, K, Jr.; Pat Chaffey, FB, Jr.; Eric Davis, LB, Soph.; Kevin Dornier, TB, Soph. (RS); Kenny Felix, OG, Sr.; Bryant Hill, SE, Sr.; Mike Maggiore, DT, Jr.; Mike Matthews, LB, Sr.; Damon Medlock, TE, Sr. (RS); Jeff Mori, OG, Sr.; Calvin Nicholson, CB, Sr.; Terry Page, LB, Sr. (RS); Pete Steffen, OG, Jr.; Esera Tuao, DE, Jr.; Larry Vlade, S, Jr. **Top Newcomers:** Greg Juul, DE (RS).

Schedule: Arizona, Sept. 3; at San Jose State, Sept. 10; California, Sept. 17; at Colorado, Sept. 24; Fresno State, Oct. 1; at UCLA, Oct. 8; at Stanford, Oct. 22; Southern Cal, Oct. 29; at Arizona State, Nov. 5; at Washington State, Nov. 12; Oregon, Nov. 19.

One of the best things about the 1988 Beavers is that they don't have to take road trips to Athens, Ga., or Austin, Tex.

Oregon State fans are hoping that non-conference games against San Jose State and Fresno State (rather than last year's games against Georgia and Texas) will provide a base for a four-victory season for the first time since 1971.

Record-breaking quarterback Erik Wilhelm is back for his fourth season, but junior college hotshots Nick Schichtle and Matt Booher could give him some honest-to-goodness competition for a change. Nobody questions Wilhelm's throwing ability (6,497 yards on 57.3 percent passing over three years), but he needs to improve his efficiency.

The Beavers have two of the league's best receivers in flanker Robb Thomas (58 receptions in '87) and tight end Phil Ross (56), along with tailback Brian Taylor (49). Taylor, in fact, was the league's No. 2 all-purpose runner.

But all those pretty numbers won't do much good if the defense doesn't stop anybody again and if a young offensive line doesn't allow some ball control.

Only five starters, including do-everything safety Andre Harris, return from last year's porous defense, which has been changed from a predominantly 4-3 set to a 3-4 alignment.

"We need to be more reckless and get after people more than we have and not be sitting on our haunches," Coach Dave Kragthorpe said. ■

Toughest league around? SEC wins hands down

By TONY BARNHART
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The more things change, the more they stay the same. That certainly applies to the annual wars fought for the right to represent the Southeastern Conference in the Sugar Bowl.

While the players and coaches change within the conference, the teams themselves remain constants, forming what many believe is the toughest league in college football.

While Pat Dye's Auburn Tigers enter the 1988 season as leader of the pack, as many as five other teams must be considered serious contenders.

Georgia boasts a stable of running backs that would make most coaches drool. Alabama will display the skills of a serious Heisman Trophy candidate and a menacing defense. LSU can't be overlooked as long as Tommy Hodson takes the snaps. Florida may be a year away from serious contention, but Tennessee remains a threat with its impressive skill-position talent.

AUBURN

Coach: Pat Dye (61-21-2, 7 years; 115-44-3 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 5-0-1/1st; 9-1-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Alvin Briggs, CB; Aundray Bruce, LB; Jeff Burger, QB; Kurt Crain, LB; Duke Donaldson, WR; Eric Floyd, OT; Nate Hill, DT; Edward Phillips, LB; Kevin Porter, CB; Stacy Searels, OT; Reggie Ware, FB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Stacy Danley, TB, 6-3/206, Soph.; Stacy Dunn, G, 6-5/252, Sr.; Rodney Garner, G, 6-0/260, Sr.; John Hudson, C, 6-3/252, Jr.; Walter Reeves, TE, 6-4/247, Sr.; Lawyer Tillman, WR, 6-4/224, Sr. **Defense (5):** Carlo Cheatton, S, 6-0/190, Sr.; Craig Ogletree, LB, 6-3/222, Jr.; Tracy Rucker, DT, 6-3/258, Sr. (missed three games/knee); Benji Roland, NG, 6-4/268, Sr.; Greg Staples, S, 6-0/203, Sr.

Key Returnees: Steve Brown, LB, Soph.; Vincent Harris, FB, Jr.; Fernando Horn, DT, Jr.; Brad Johnson, OG, Jr.; Win Lyle, K, Jr.; Eric Ramsey, CB, Soph.; Perry Reed, CB, Soph.; Quentin Riggins, LB, Jr.; David Rocker, DT, Soph.; Brian Shulman, P, Sr.; Reggie Slack, QB, Jr.; Brian Smith, LB, Sr.; Ron Stallworth, DT, Sr. (missed four games/knee); Greg Taylor, WR, Soph.; Jim Thompson, OG, Sr.; Freddy Weyand, WR, Sr.; John Wiley, CB, Soph.; Alexander Wright, WR, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Herbert Casey, TB; Scott Gunosky, QB (RS); Anthony Judge, LB (RS); Ed King, OL; Henry Love, TB; Alex Smith, TB; Matt Vogler, QB (RS); Jon Wilson, DT (RS/switched from TE).

Schedule: Kentucky, Sept. 10; Kansas, Sept. 17; Tennessee, Sept. 24; North Carolina, Oct. 1; at Louisiana State, Oct. 8; Akron, Oct. 15; Mississippi State, Oct. 22; at Florida, Oct. 29; Southern Mississippi, Nov. 5; Georgia, Nov. 12; Alabama (at Birmingham), Nov. 25.

Having rebuilt Auburn into a perennial Southeastern Conference contender, Dye is justifiably concerned about falling back into mediocrity, even for one season. He

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. AUBURN

Talentwise, no one in the conference comes close to Dye's Tigers.

2. GEORGIA

Dooley's Dawgs prove there is life after Herschel Walker.

3. ALABAMA

Humphrey wins the Heisman, and Curry justifies his hiring.

4. LOUISIANA STATE

An unbelievably difficult schedule is the Tigers' main problem.

5. FLORIDA

See Emmitt run. Gators are certain contenders for national crown in '89.

6. TENNESSEE

Never count out Majors. The Vols are capable of winning the SEC crown.

7. MISSISSIPPI STATE

Bulldogs rate as a sleeper pick because of their loaded offensive backfield.

8. MISSISSIPPI

This is a pivotal year for Brewer. Ole Miss needs a huge year from Young.

9. KENTUCKY

Claiborne's squad always comes well-prepared and will battle to the end.

10. VANDERBILT

Jones is the nation's best-kept secret. Lack of depth will be Vandy's downfall.

need not be concerned in 1988.

Despite the loss of quarterback Jeff Burger, linebacker Aundray Bruce, the NFL's No. 1 overall draft choice, and nine other starters, the Tigers will be in the hunt for another conference title.

"To tell the truth, I have no idea what kind of team this is going to be," said Dye, who is 61-21-2 in his seven years at Auburn.

The most obvious hole is at quarterback, where two-year starter Burger has departed after passing for 2,066 yards and 13 touchdowns last season. Taking his place will be junior Reggie Slack, who started one game and threw for 185 yards and three touchdowns in a 38-7 win over Mississippi State.

Auburn relied more heavily on the pass than ever before in 1987 and out of necessity it will happen again this season. The Tigers have still been unable to develop a high-profile running back in the image of Bo Jackson or Brent Fullwood and the running game again will be complementary instead of primary. Stacy Danley returns after rushing for 468 yards.

Another good reason for throwing is a corps of receivers that makes Dye smile.

"Lawyer Tillman, Freddy Weyand, Alexander Wright and Greg Taylor are four guys who look good to me," Dye said. "I expect they will make Reggie Slack a much better quarterback."

Tillman has 74 career catches and 1,408 yards, an average of 19 yards per catch. Tight end Walter Reeves has 40 receptions for 303 the past two seasons and will be an All-America candidate in 1988.

Defensively, Auburn will use one of the nation's best defensive fronts to compensate for lack of experience at linebacker and defensive back.

That front wall is led by consensus All-America Tracy Rocker, a leading contender for the 1988 Lombardi Award.

Noseguard Benji Roland, a three-year starter, and tackle Ron Stallworth will fill the other two down lineman spots and the entire group will be more effective due to Rocker's brother, David, who will see plenty of playing time off the bench.

GEORGIA

Coach: Vince Dooley (192-74-10, 24 years). **1987 Record:** 4-2/T4th; 8-3 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: John Brantley, LB; Larry Brown, DG; Mack Burroughs, C; James Jackson, QB; Will Jones, S; Tyrone McClendon, DT; Cassius Osburn, FL; Kim Stephens, OG; Lars Tate, TB; Mark Vincent, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Scott Adams, T, 6-6/265, Sr.; Alphonso Ellis, FB, 5-9/205, Soph.; Curt Mull, T, 6-5/281, Jr.; Troy Sadowski, TE, 6-5/243, Sr.; John Thomas, SE, 6-1/198, Sr.; Todd Wheeler, C, 6-3/257, Sr. **Defense (6):** Rusty Beasley, S, 5-11/188, Sr.; Aaron Chubb, E, 6-4/220, Sr.; Bill Goldberg, DG, 6-3/266, Jr.; Vince Guthrie, LB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Ben Smith, CB, 5-11/180, Jr.; Terrie Webster, LB, 6-1/221, Sr.

Key Returnees: Shelly Anderson, OG, Sr.; Brent Collins, LB, Jr.; Steve Crumley, K, Sr.; Rodney Hampton, TB, Soph.; David Hargett, CB, Soph.; Keith Henderson, FB, Jr. (RS/academics); Joey Hester, P/QB, Jr.; Wayne Johnson, QB, Sr. (injured knee in spring); John Kasay, K, Soph.; Wycliffe Lovelace, DT, Sr. (RS/medical); Pat Simmons, OG, Soph. (RS/eye); Tim Worley, TB, Jr. (RS/academics).

Top Newcomers: Chuck Carswell, CB (RS/switched from TB); Todd Collins, LB; Tommy Cox, FB (JC); Norm Cowins, LB (RS/shoulder); Curt Douglas, LB; Arthur Marshall, WR (RS/arm); Greg Talley, QB; Larry Ware, TB (RS).

Schedule: Tennessee, Sept. 3; Texas Christian, Sept. 10; at Mississippi State, Sept. 17; at South Carolina, Sept. 24; Mississippi, Oct. 1; Vanderbilt, Oct. 8; at Kentucky, Oct. 22; William & Mary, Oct. 29; Florida (at Jacksonville), Nov. 5; at Auburn, Nov. 12; Georgia Tech, Nov. 26.

Vince Dooley begins his 25th year as Bulldogs coach with a good shot at his first conference title since Herschel Walker (1982) and the odds will be even better if a pair of backs return from academic difficulty.

The Bulldogs finished the 1987 season on a high note when a field goal at the buzzer beat Arkansas, 20-17, in the Liberty Bowl. At 9-3, it was a good season that was a few seconds away from being great. Georgia lost to Clemson, 21-20, on the last play of the game and to LSU, 26-23, when the Tigers scored with less than four minutes remaining. Only once, in a 27-11 loss

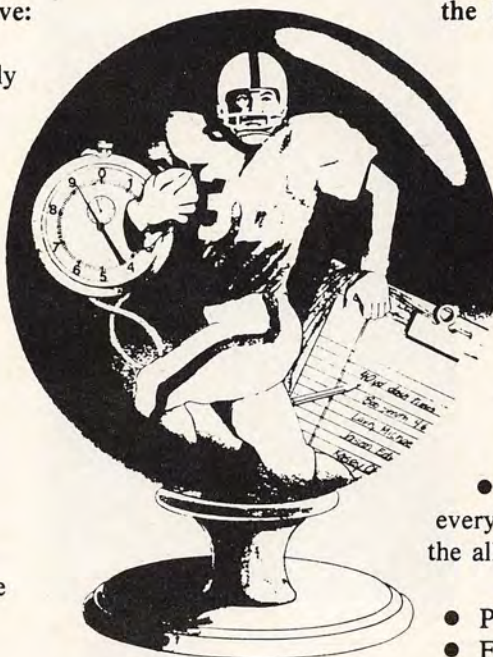
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- FRED AKERS

Purdue Head Coach

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to Auburn, were the Bulldogs outclassed.

Georgia averaged 26.5 points per game in '87 and again will be explosive despite the loss of quarterback James Jackson and tailback Lars Tate.

Fifth-year senior Wayne Johnson is Jackson's heir, but he probably will be pressed by redshirt freshman Greg Talley of Valdosta, Ga. Johnson, a Parade All-America in high school, has lived in the shadows of Jackson except for the 1986 upset victory of seventh-ranked Auburn in which he started, threw one touchdown pass and ran for another.

Sophomore Rodney Hampton rushed for 890 yards on just 126 carries (7.1 average) as a backup to Tate and is clearly one of the South's rising stars. Sophomore Alphonso Ellis is back after starting 10 games at fullback. But neither are assured of starting jobs. They could be pressed by 1986 starters Tim Worley and Keith Henderson, both of whom are hoping to return from injury and academic problems.

Henderson was the team's second leading rusher in 1986 and one of the most versatile backs in Georgia history. Worley, with world class speed, was the second leading rusher in 1985 and started in 1986 before being sidelined with an injury.

Of immediate concern to Dooley is replacing Kim Stephens and Mack Burroughs, both four-year starters at guard. The rest of the offensive line returns.

Defensively, the biggest loss is John Brantley, a consensus All-America inside

linebacker, but the Bulldogs have linebackers sufficiently stockpiled, including incoming freshman Todd Collins, a Parade All-America.

ALABAMA

Coach: Bill Curry (7-5, 1 year; 38-48-2 overall, 8 years).

1987 Record: 4-2/T3rd; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Doug Allen, FB; Jeff Bentley, OT; Phillip Brown, DE; Bill Condon, OG; Randy Rockwell, LB; Clay Whitehurst, SE; Bo Wright, FB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Marco Battle, FL, 6-0/170, Sr.; Terrill Chatman, T, 6-4/287, Jr.; Howard Cross, TE, 6-6/232, Sr.; Jeff Dunn, QB, 6-1/200, Jr.; Bobby Humphrey, TB, 6-1/187, Sr. (injured foot in spring practice); Larry Rose, G, 6-4/273, Sr.; Roger Schultz, C, 6-2/250, Jr. **Defense (9):** Tommy Cole, T, 6-2/250, Sr.; Greg Gilbert, LB, 6-2/205, Sr.; Gene Jelks, CB, 5-11/174, Sr.; Kermit Kendrick, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; John Mangum, CB, 5-11/174, Jr.; Lee Ozmint, S, 6-5/201, Jr.; Robert Stewart, LB, 6-0/246, Soph. (switched to fullback during spring practice); Derrick Thomas, LB, 6-4/222, Sr.; Willie Wyatt, NG, 6-1/255, Jr.

Key Returnees: George Bethune, DE/LB, Sr.; Scott Bolt, DT, Soph.; Philip Doyle, K, Soph.; Pierre Goode, WR, Jr.; William Kent, FB, Jr.; David Lenior, DE, Jr. (injured back in spring practice); Chris Mohr, P, Sr.; Greg Payne, WR, Sr.; Thomas Rayam, DE, Jr.; David Smith, QB, Sr.; Brian Stutson, CB, Soph.; Vince Sutton, QB, Sr.; Steve Webb, DE, Soph.; Mike Zuga, C, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Terry Langston, LB (Prop. 48); Keith McCants, LB (Prop. 48); Mike Ramil, DT (JC) (injured knee in spring).

Schedule: At Temple, Sept. 10; at Texas

A&M, Sept. 17; Vanderbilt, Sept. 24; at Kentucky, Oct. 1; Mississippi, Oct. 8; at Tennessee, Oct. 15; Penn State, Oct. 22; at Mississippi State, Oct. 29; Louisiana State, Nov. 5; Southwestern Louisiana, Nov. 12; Auburn (at Birmingham), Nov. 25.

Bill Curry's first season at Alabama was an emotional rollercoaster ride in which he was both hailed and cursed as hero and goat during the span of four months.

After a 24-13 win over Penn State on September 12, skeptical Crimson Tide faithful breathed easier.

But over the next four weeks, Alabama would lose to Florida, struggle to beat Vanderbilt and then lose to lowly Memphis State. Just when it appeared Curry might not last the season, his team rallied to beat Tennessee and LSU in Baton Rouge in the space of three weeks.

Then, when it appeared the ship was back on course, the Tide lost its final two games to Notre Dame and Auburn before falling to Michigan in the Hall of Fame Bowl.

So the question has to be: Where does Curry stand heading into his second season at Tuscaloosa?

"We're just working, very, very hard," said Curry, the former Georgia Tech coach. "We've learned a great deal from a year ago and will keep learning. We're still progressing."

Progress always is enhanced by the presence of a weapon the caliber of senior tailback Bobby Humphrey, a Heisman Trophy candidate. Humphrey rushed for 1,255 yards last season, an average of 114.1 per game, and scored 13 touchdowns.

Alabama does not have a proven quarterback, but Curry is convinced that one of three hopefuls, David Smith, Jeff Dunn or Vince Sutton, will step forward.

Alabama returns seven offensive starters, including three of five interior linemen. The Crimson Tide must find a replacement for split end Clay Whitehurst, a possession receiver who was especially effective on third-down conversion situations, but tight end Howard Cross caught 17 passes for 158 yards and figures to be more involved in the offense.

Defensively, noseguard Willie Wyatt and tackle Tommy Cole anchor the front wall, which will be backed up by a pair of quality linebackers in Greg Gilbert and Derrick Thomas.

All four members of secondary return. Corners John Mangum and Gene Jelks will team again with safeties Kermit Kendrick and Lee Ozmint.

LOUISIANA STATE

Coach: Mike Archer (10-1-1, 1 year).

1987 Record: 5-1/2nd; 9-1-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Nacho Albergamo, C; Eric Andolsek, OG; Willie Bryant, CB; Chris Carrier, S; Tommy Clapp, DE; Wendell Davis, SE; Kevin Guidry, CB; Nicky Hazard, LB; Brian Kinchen, TE; Rogie Magee, FL; Darren Malbrough, LB; Matt DeFrank, P.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Tom Hodson, QB, 6-3/195, Jr.; Jim Hubicz, T, 6-4/260, Jr.; Victor Jones, FB, 5-9/198, Jr.;

Who'll Fill Burger's Shoes?



When Reggie Slack came to Auburn as a backup quarterback, he knew that he would be living on the edge.

"Maybe it would bother some people," Slack said, "but I was comfortable knowing I was always one play away from being the starting quarterback."

But until last season, Slack never knew how precarious that job could be. Being Jeff Burger's backup in 1987 was a roller coaster of emotions.

In July 1987, Burger was jailed after being involved in a brawl at an Auburn restaurant. Assistant coach Pat Sullivan bailed him out, which violated an NCAA rule. The NCAA declared Burger ineligible, and Slack was told he might start the opener against Texas. Also during that time, a school honesty committee recommended that Burger be suspended for plagiarism. But after weeks of nervous speculation, Burger was reinstated and Slack was back in the shadows.

Then in October, Burger and a teammate accepted a free hunting trip, also a violation of NCAA rules.



Reggie Slack

Coach Pat Dye learned of the trip the Friday before Auburn's game with Mississippi State and decided to bench him. Less than 24 hours before game time, Slack was told that he would be the starter. Slack went out and led the Tigers to a 38-7 victory while completing 11 of 17 passes for 185 yards and three touchdowns.

The NCAA restored Burger's eligibility again, but Slack was given the next start against Florida. After bobbling the first snap of the game, though, Slack was replaced by Burger. He did not take

another snap in 1987.

But Burger is gone now and the roller-coaster ride is over for Slack. The 6-foot-1, 204-pound junior is the No. 1 quarterback.

"What Reggie has been through hasn't been easy," Dye said, "but he's showed his maturity before and he'll show it again."

"All I have ever wanted was to play and show what I can do," Slack said. "I am really looking forward to it."

—TONY BARNHART

Robert Packnett, T, 6-5/265, Jr.; Ruffin Rodrique, G, 6-1/250, Jr.; Harvey Williams, TB, 6-2/210, Jr. (questionable in 1988 due to off-season knee surgery). **Defense (5):** Karl Dunbar, E, 6-4/262, Jr.; Eric Hill, LB, 6-2/245, Sr. (suspended in spring for team violations); Greg Jackson, S, 6-1/195, Sr.; Darrell Phillips, NG, 6-2/245, Sr.; Ron Sanchez, LB, 6-3/225, Sr.

Key Returnees: Verge Ausberry, LB, Jr.; David Browndyke, K, Jr.; John Childers, CB, Sr.; Todd Coutee, C, Sr.; Kenny Davidson, OT, Jr.; Eddie Fuller, TB, Jr.; Mickey Guidry, QB, Sr.; Ronnie Haliburton, TE, Jr.; Rudy Harmon, LB, Sr.; Tony Houston, S, Soph.; Clint James, DE, Jr.; Oliver Lawrence, LB, Sr.; Mike Mayes, CB, Sr.; Blake Miller, OG, Soph.; Tony Moss, WR, Jr.; Mike Murla, LB, Jr.; Ralph Norwood, OT, Sr. (missed eight games in '88/knee); Slip Watkins, TB, Jr.; Jimmy Young, CB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Rafael Adams, DB; Marc Boutte, DE (RS); Derrick Giron, S (RS); Roger Hutchinson, OT (RS); Todd Kinchen, WR (RS); Tyronne Malone, LB; Eric Middleton, LB (RS); Fred Norfleet, RB; Corey Raymond, S (RS); Torun Robinson, NG (RS); Chris Truax, OG (RS); Wayne Williams, RB.

Schedule: Texas A&M, Sept. 3; at Tennessee, Sept. 17; at Ohio State, Sept. 24; at Florida, Oct. 1; Auburn, Oct. 8; Kentucky, Oct. 15; Mississippi, Oct. 29; at Alabama, Nov. 5; at Mississippi State, Nov. 12; Miami (Fla.), Nov. 19; Tulane, Nov. 26.

With a 10-1-1 record in his first year as a head coach, one would think that 35-year-old Mike Archer has earned his spurs. Not true.

Archer is the first to admit that he inherited a veteran club from Bill Arnsparger and that it was his job to keep a talented ship on course.

The first real test of Archer's coaching ability will come in 1988, when he must replace 11 starters before his LSU squad can mount another challenge for the conference championship.

But quarterback Tom Hodson is back and being touted as a Heisman Trophy candidate after nearly rewriting the LSU passing record book in just two seasons. He has already thrown for 4,386 yards and needs 2,500 this season to become the school's all-time leader.

But unless Archer can effectively replace a talented corps of receivers lost to graduation, Hodson could have problems. Tony Moss, a junior who caught 11 passes last year, is the most experienced receiver in camp.

Another problem won't be resolved until tailback Harvey Williams tests his damaged knee against Texas A&M on September 3. Williams, one of the conference's most elusive backs, injured the knee in LSU's regular-season finale against Tulane and underwent off-season surgery. The offensive line returns three starters, tackles Jim Hubicz and Robert Packnett and guard Ruffin Rodrigue.

Defensively, LSU has gone from having one of the conference's best secondaries to one of the most inexperienced. The lone returning starter is Greg Jackson, who will be moved from strong to weak safety.

FLORIDA

Coach: Galen Hall (29-12-1, 4 years).
1987 Record: 3-3/6th; 6-5 overall.



Louisiana State needs elusive tailback Harvey Williams, who's recovering from off-season knee surgery, at full strength.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Kerwin Bell, QB; Henry Brown, DT; Clifford Charlton, LB; Jimmy Davis, OT; Gerold Dickens, LB; Ricky Mulberry, CB; Walter Odom, TE; Bob Sims, OG; Anthony Williams, FB; Jarvis Williams, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Tracy Daniels, C, 6-1/250, Sr.; Tony Lomack, WR, 5-8/181, Jr. (missed six games/collarbone, reinjured in spring); Stacey Simmons, WR, 5-10/180, Jr.; Emmitt Smith, RB, 5-11/205, Soph.; David Williams, T, 6-5/293, Sr.; Charlie Wright, G, 6-4/265, Sr. **Defense (6):** Pat Moorer, LB, 6-0/225, Jr.; Louis Oliver, S, 6-2/227, Sr.; Jeff Reuter, LB, 6-3/225, Sr. (injured knee in spring); Jeff Roth, MG, 6-4/255, Sr.; Kerry Watkins, CB, 5-11/197, Jr.; Rhondy Weston, T, 6-5/278, Sr.

Key Returnees: Chris Bromley, C, Soph.; Todd Gatlin, LB, Sr.; Tony Jones, CB, Jr.; Bill Lang, S, Sr.; Willie McGrady, FB, Soph.; Mark McGriff, TE, Sr.; Ernie Mills, WR, Soph.; Glenn Neely, DT, Soph.; Joey Nicoletto, LB, Sr.; Huey Richardson, LB/DE, Soph.; Cedric Smith, FB, Jr.; Willie Snead, WR, Sr.; Richard Starowesky, OG, Jr.; Wayne Williams, RB, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Trace Armstrong, DT (transfer/Arizona State); Terence Barber, WR (Prop. 48); Mike Brandon, DT (Prop. 48); Kelvin Calhoun, TE (JC); Dexter McNabb, FB; Jason McLellan, OT (RS); Godfrey Myles, TE/LB (Prop 48); Kyle Morris, QB (RS); Tim Paulk, LB (RS); Lex Smith, QB; Tim Thompson, LB (RS); Mark White, OG (RS).

Schedule: Montana State, Sept. 3; at Mississippi, Sept. 10; Indiana State, Sept. 17; Mississippi State, Sept. 24; Louisiana State, Oct. 1; Memphis State, Oct. 8; at Vanderbilt, Oct. 15; Auburn, Oct. 29; Georgia (at Jacksonville), Nov. 5; at Kentucky, Nov. 12; at Florida State, Nov. 26.

Florida Coach Galen Hall expressed understandable reservations before letting his team work out on a lush, new practice field.

"I can't let them go out there," he said. "They're so green they might get lost."

The Gators fell victim to college football's numbers game last season and indications are it could happen again in 1988. Front-line players for the '87 Gators were as good as any in the conference, but scholarship limitations imposed by NCAA

probation took their ultimate toll, leaving the Gators with virtually no depth. By November Florida was a physically depleted team and lost four of its last five games.

If Florida can find a quarterback to replace four-year starter Kerwin Bell, it should again start the season strong. But the question persists. How long can they last?

With 70 percent of his roster freshmen or sophomores, Hall will be experimenting with his limited talent. "I don't think we can afford to hesitate to move people around trying to find the best 22," he said. "Somehow we've got to find some depth no matter how many switches we have to make."

Offensive problem No. 1 is at quarterback, where sophomore Herbert Perry is expected to see duty. Perry threw only eight passes last year, but no other quarterback has played one down of college football.

Problem No. 2 is a receiving corps that was consistently inconsistent last year.

But all is not bleak, at least not as long as Emmitt Smith is wearing the orange and blue.

Smith was clearly the nation's best freshman a year ago, rushing for 1,341 yards and a 5.9 average. Also back is Smith's backup, Wayne Williams, along with both fullbacks. They will run behind a veteran offensive line led by tackle David Williams.

The Florida offense should be able to survive on a steady diet of Smith thanks to a defense built around talented noseguard Jeff Roth and tackle Rhondy Weston. That front line will get stronger with the addition of 262-pound tackle Trace Armstrong, a transfer from Arizona State.

TENNESSEE

Coach: Johnny Majors (77-47-6, 11 years; 134-90-8 overall, 20 years).

1987 Record: 4-1-1/3rd; 9-2-1 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: John Bruhin, OG; Harry Galbreath, OG; Mark Hovanic, DT; Brian Hunt, MG; Mike Kelley, LB; Todd Kirk, C; Terry McDaniel, CB; Darrin Miller, LB; Victor Poppers, CB; Charles Wilson, FB; Kelly Ziegler, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Terence Cleveland, WR, 5-8/151, Jr.; Reggie Cobb, TB, 6-0/210, Soph.; Jeff Francis, QB, 6-4/210, Sr.; Nate Middlebrooks, TE, 6-2/230, Sr.; Kevin Simons, T, 6-3/278, Sr.; Eric Still, G, 6-3/274, Jr. (switched from T); Thomas Woods, WR, 5-10/164, Jr. **Defense (4):** Kelly Days, S, 5-11/181, Soph.; Keith DeLong, LB, 6-2/219, Sr.; Marion Hobby, T, 6-4/226, Jr.; Cedric Kline, S, 6-0/198, Jr.

Key Returnees: Greg Amsler, FB, Soph. (RS); Keith Davis, TB, Sr.; Vando Davis, S, Jr. (switched from TB); Alvin Harper, WR, Soph.; Tracy Hayworth, LB, Jr.; Sterling Henton, QB, Soph.; Bryan Kimbro, LB, Sr.; Jeremy Lincoln, CB, Soph.; Charles McRae, MG, Soph.; John Rollins, FB, Sr. (switched from TE); Preston Warren, CB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Andy Kelly, QB/P; Patrick Lenoir, DL; Mark Moore, DT (Prop 48); Anthony Morgan, WR (Prop 48); Kacy Rodgers, LB.

Schedule: At Georgia, Sept. 3; Duke, Sept. 10; Louisiana State, Sept. 17; at Auburn, Sept. 24; Washington State, Oct. 1; Alabama,

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	PIERRE GOODE, Alabama	5-11	175	Junior
WR	LAWYER TILLMAN, Auburn	6-04	224	Senior
TE	HOWARD CROSS, Alabama	6-06	232	Senior
T	MIKE PFEIFER, Kentucky	6-07	290	Junior
T	DAVID WILLIAMS, Florida	6-05	293	Senior
C	TODD WHEELER, Georgia	6-03	257	Senior
G	LARRY ROSE, Alabama	6-04	273	Senior
G	ERIC STILL, Tennessee	6-03	274	Junior
QB	TOM HODSON, Louisiana State	6-03	195	Junior
RB	RODNEY HAMPTON, Georgia	6-00	195	Soph.
RB	*BOBBY HUMPHREY, Alabama	6-01	187	Senior
RB	EMMITT SMITH, Florida	5-11	205	Soph.

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	JEFF ROTH, Florida	6-04	255	Senior
NG	BILL GOLDBERG, Georgia	6-03	266	Junior
DL	TRACE ARMSTRONG, Florida	6-05	262	Senior
DL	TRACY ROCKER, Auburn	6-03	258	Senior
DL	RON STALLWORTH, Auburn	6-05	258	Senior
LB	KEITH DeLONG, Tennessee	6-02	219	Senior
LB	CRAIG OGLETREE, Auburn	6-03	222	Junior
LB	RON SANCHE, Louisiana State	6-03	225	Senior
LB	DERRICK THOMAS, Alabama	6-04	222	Senior
DB	KERMIT KENDRICK, Alabama	6-02	200	Senior
DB	LOUIS OLIVER, Florida	6-02	227	Senior
DB	STEVEN MOORE, Mississippi	6-00	205	Senior
DB	BEN SMITH, Georgia	5-11	180	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	PHILIP DOYLE, Alabama	6-01	190	Soph.
P	BRIAN SHULMAN, Auburn	5-10	189	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	FRED HADLEY, Mississippi State	6-02	173	Senior
WR	STACEY SIMMONS, Florida	5-10	180	Junior
TE	WALTER REEVES, Auburn	6-04	247	Senior
TE	*JESSE ANDERSON, Mississippi State	6-03	228	Junior
T	TERRILL CHATMAN, Alabama	6-04	287	Junior
T	RALPH NORWOOD, Louisiana State	6-07	264	Senior
C	TONY ROBERTSON, Mississippi State	6-03	284	Soph.
T	KEVIN SIMONS, Tennessee	6-03	278	Senior
T	JIM THOMPSON, Auburn	6-06	261	Senior
QB	ERIC JONES, Vanderbilt	6-02	197	Senior
RB	REGGIE COBB, Tennessee	6-00	210	Soph.
RB	HANK PHILLIPS, Mississippi State	6-01	215	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NG	DARRELL PHILLIPS, Louisiana State	6-02	245	Senior
NG	BENJI ROLAND, Auburn	6-04	268	Senior
NG	WILLIE WYATT, Alabama	6-01	255	Junior
DL	MARION HOBBY, Tennessee	6-04	226	Junior
DL	RHONDY WESTON, Florida	6-05	278	Senior
LB	STEVE BROWN, Auburn	6-04	220	Soph.
LB	KEITH DeLONG, Tennessee	6-02	219	Senior
LB	GREG GILBERT, Alabama	6-02	205	Senior
LB	HUEY RICHARDSON, Florida	6-05	233	Soph.
DB	GENE JELKS, Alabama	5-11	174	Senior
DB	CEDRIC KLINE, Tennessee	6-00	198	Junior
DB	RON ROBINSON, Kentucky	6-01	185	Junior
DB	GREG STAPLES, Auburn	6-00	203	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	WIN LYLE, Auburn	5-09	174	Junior
P	CHRIS MOHR, Alabama	6-04	195	Senior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Pfeifer



Williams



Rose



Goldberg



Ogletree



Kendrick



Moore



Smith

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Smith, Florida	229	1341	13
Higgs, Kentucky	193	1278	10
Humphrey, Alabama	238	1255	11
Tate, Georgia	208	1016	14
Cobb, Tennessee	237	1197	17
Williams, LSU	154	1001	11
Hampton, Georgia	126	890	4

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Jones, Vanderbilt	229	139	145.82
Burger, Auburn	267	178	140.99
Hodson, LSU	265	162	140.38
Francis, Tennessee	201	121	128.56
Jackson, Georgia	132	67	127.49

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Davis, LSU	72	993	7
Ambrose, Ole Miss	42	515	3
Donaldson, Auburn	43	398	1
Parker, Vanderbilt	41	782	12
Crawford, Vanderbilt	36	400	0
Tillman, Auburn	32	600	6
Green, Ole Miss	34	588	3

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Humphrey, Alabama	275	1781	161.9
Cobb, Tennessee	266	1721	143.4
Smith, Florida	254	1525	138.6
Martin, LSU	144	1428	129.8
Higgs, Kentucky	209	1401	127.4
Hampton, Georgia	151	1337	121.5
Tate, Georgia	221	1165	116.5

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
DeFrank, LSU	33	1373	41.6
Garmon, Tennessee	35	1440	41.1
Shulman, Auburn	58	2358	40.7
Mohr, Alabama	55	2230	40.5

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Lewis, Georgia	14	195	13.9
Williams, Florida	21	227	10.8
Smith, Kentucky	24	242	10.1
Myles, Miss State	29	266	9.2
Jelks, Alabama	19	172	9.0

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Reich, Tennessee	23	16	1.33
Doyle, Alabama	20	13	1.30
Brownkyke, LSU	20	14	1.27
Clark, Vanderbilt	20	14	1.27
Worley, Kentucky	21	14	1.27
Crumley, Georgia	17	14	1.27

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Martin, LSU	17	459	27.0
Cleveland, Tennessee	13	329	25.3
Osborn, Georgia	13	318	24.5
Smith, Kentucky	12	291	24.2
Humphrey, Alabama	15	356	23.5
Johnson, Vanderbilt	28	657	23.5

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Sandroni, Ole Miss	7	47	.64
Moore, Ole Miss	5	59	.50
Mangum, Alabama	5	1	.45
Oliver, Florida	5	96	.45

SCORING

	Gms.	Pts.	PG
Cobb, Tennessee	12	120	10.0
Tate, Georgia	10	86	8.6
Brownkyke, LSU	11	83	7.5
Reich, Tennessee	12	89	7.4
Humphrey, Alabama	11	78	7.1
Smith, Florida	11	78	7.1

Oct. 15; at Memphis State, Oct. 22; Boston College, Nov. 5; at Mississippi, Nov. 12; Kentucky, Nov. 19; at Vanderbilt, Nov. 26.

A year ago, Tennessee started quickly with four wins and a tie against powerful Auburn. In the process, Volunteer fans were buzzing about a possible trip to the Sugar Bowl. Then came devastating losses to Alabama (41-22) and Boston College (20-18) in the space of three weeks that created lingering doubts, doubts that did not disappear until the Vols beat Indiana in the Peach Bowl to cap a 10-2-1 campaign.

This season there will be no doubt. Tennessee fans will know early whether they have a Sugar Bowl-quality team.

Based on the return of seven offensive starters, including quarterback Jeff Francis and sophomore tailback Reggie Cobb, one would give Tennessee a good chance to challenge for the conference title. But in the space of just seven weeks at the beginning of the season, the Volunteers have to play four of the conference's best teams.

Fortunately for Coach Johnny Majors, he doesn't have to make a lot of decisions on offense. Francis, who threw for 1,512 yards and eight touchdowns, will direct a unit that led the conference in total offense with 405.9 yards per game.

The offensive stabilizing force is Cobb, who ran for 1,197 yards and tied the conference record for touchdowns (20) and points (120) in a season.

Some rebuilding is in order for a Tennessee defense that was inconsistent at best. Only four starters return, but they are good ones.

Senior linebacker Keith DeLong should be a strong All-America candidate after leading Tennessee with 125 tackles. Marion Hobby returns to anchor an inexperienced defensive line while safeties Kelly Days and Cedric Kline return to the secondary.

MISSISSIPPI STATE

Coach: Rocky Felker (10-12, 2 years).

1987 Record: 1-5/T7th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Cedric Corse, LB; Garry Frank, OT; Tom Goode, C; Rodney Peters, FB; Michael Simmons, DT; Stan Sims, OG.

Starters Returning: **Offense (7):** Jesse Anderson, TE, 6-3/228, Jr. (might switch to TB); Mike Davis, QB, 6-4/204, Jr.; Fred Hadley, WR, 6-2/173, Sr.; Darrell Kenneybrew, WR, 6-4/182, Sr.; Durward Minor, G, 6-1/278, Sr.; Hank Phillips, TB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Tony Robertson, C, 6-3/284, Soph. (switched from T). **Defense (9):** Bobby Barlow, T, 6-3/231, Jr.; Asa Bennett, S, 6-2/194, Jr.; Anthony Butts, T, 6-4/273, Sr.; Lenard Hooker, LB, 6-1/224, Sr.; Darren Martin, LB, 6-3/229, Sr.; Eddie Myles, CB, 5-9/170, Soph.; Bo Russell, S, 6-3/193, Jr.; Milton Smith, CB, 5-9/170, Jr.; James Williams, LB, 6-1/225, Jr.

Key Returnees: David Fair, TB, Soph.; Mike Hendershot, OT, Jr.; Joel Logan, K, Soph.; Bernard McCullough, CB, Sr.; Jerry Myers, S, Jr. (RS); Tommy Parks, P, Jr.; Michael Robinson, DB, Soph. (RS); Michael Taylor, CB, Sr.; Albert Williams, S, Soph. (switched from QB); Sam Wright, TE, Jr.; Jerrod Young, FB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Demetrius Hill, DT (JC);

James Howse, TB (transfer/Texas A&M); Ches Liles, QB; John McCulland, OT (JC/RS); William Prince, TB; Derrell Robertson, LB (JC).

Schedule: Louisiana Tech, Sept. 3; at Vanderbilt, Sept. 10; Georgia, Sept. 17; at Florida, Sept. 24; at Memphis State, Oct. 1; Southern Mississippi (at Jackson), Oct. 15; at Auburn, Oct. 22; Alabama, Oct. 29; Louisiana State, Nov. 12; at Tulane, Nov. 19; Mississippi (at Jackson), Nov. 26.

From Mississippi State's point of view, last season's 4-7 record was more satisfying than its 6-5 slate in 1986. That's because the Bulldogs played well down the stretch against conference powers LSU and Alabama before closing out the season by beating state-rival Ole Miss. In 1986, they lost their last four games and had no momentum to carry over.

If Mississippi State is to improve, it must do something about a defense that finished eighth in the conference.

State has changed from a 50 front to a 4-3 in order to maximize the talents of senior Anthony Butts, a 6-4, 273-pound tackle who has yet to achieve the greatness predicted for him when he was one of the nation's most highly recruited players four years ago.

Two other defensive-line starters return, but someone will have to move over for tackle Demetrius Hill, an All-America from Garden City (Kan.) Junior College. Derrell Robertson, a 235-pound linebacker out of Cisco (Tex.) Junior College, is expected to give the Bulldogs the pass rush they have so desperately needed.

All four starters return in the secondary, but someone will have to make room for Albert Williams, a sophomore who started five games at quarterback last season.

Offensively, Jesse Anderson, a tight end who caught 20 passes last season, was moved to tailback in a spring experiment. Anderson, who had never played the position in his life, ran for 110 yards in the spring game.

If Anderson doesn't get the nod, Felker has other options. Senior Hank Phillips rushed for 848 yards and averaged 110 over his last four games while David Fair, a prep All-America who had to sit out last season with a knee injury, is expected to be at full speed.

The top three receivers will return for sophomore quarterback Eric Underwood.

MISSISSIPPI

Coach: Billy Brewer (25-27-3, 5 years; 82-66-6 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 1-5/T7th; 3-8 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Rich Adamcik, OG; J.R. Ambrose, FL; Jeff Herrod, LB; Danny Hoskins, OG; Todd Irvin, OT; Howard Moss, S; Don Price, CB; Jay Schimmel, OT (injured knee during spring practice); Robert Smith, LB.

Starters Returning: **Offense (6):** Chuck Cleveland, TE, 6-2/216, Sr. (switched from FB); Willie Green, WR, 6-2/185, Jr.; Dawson Pruett, C, 6-1/260, Soph.; Shawn Sowder, TE, 6-2/230, Sr.; Shawn Sykes, TB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Mark Young, QB, 6-3/190, Sr.

Defense (7): Lopaz Jones, LB, 6-2/230, Sr.; Rodney Lowe, T, 6-5/260, Sr.; Stevon

Moore, CB, 6-0/205, Sr.; Todd Sandroni, S, 6-1/200, Soph.; Darryl Smith, NG, 6-0/245, Jr.; Wesley Walls, LB, 6-5/250, Sr. (might switch to TE); Dan Wigley, T, 6-3/265, Jr.

Key Returnees: Tony Bennett, LB, Jr.; Shawn Cobb, LB, Soph.; John Darnell, QB, Jr.; Bubba Dickey, OG, Sr. (switched from LB); Reid Hines, WR, Jr.; James King, OG, Sr.; A.D. Matthews, S, Sr.; Joe Mickles, FB, Sr. (RS/neck); Chris Mitchell, CB, Soph.; Jeff Rhodes, OT, Soph.; Ken Williams, OT, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Tyrone Ashley, RB; Darron Billings, FB (RS); Robert Cagle, OG (RS); Pat Coleman, WR (JC); Louis Gordon, LB (RS/shoulder); Jay Hopson, S (RS); Doug Jacobs, DT (transfer/South Carolina); Lee Lott, OT (RS); Michael Robinson, CB (Prop. 48); Johnny Strozier, OT (Prop. 48).

Schedule: Memphis State, Sept. 3; Florida, Sept. 10; at Arkansas, Sept. 17; at Georgia, Oct. 1; at Alabama, Oct. 8; Arkansas State, Oct. 15; at Vanderbilt, Oct. 22; at Louisiana State, Oct. 29; Tulane, Nov. 5; Tennessee, Nov. 12; Mississippi State (at Jackson), Nov. 26.

If Billy Brewer ever sits down to write his life's story, he'll have no trouble deciding what were the worst of times. It doesn't get any worse than 1987.

Loaded with returning starters from an 8-3-1 team, the 1987 Rebels were supposed to be a darkhorse to finish on top of the SEC. What Rebel fans got was a 3-8 record and last-place finish in the league.

"It was one of the most unusual years I've ever experienced as a football coach," said Brewer, who played for Johnny Vaught at Ole Miss from 1958-60 and has been a head college coach since 1972.

Now Ole Miss has 13 starters and 44 lettermen returning. Offensively the Rebels lost receiver J.R. Ambrose but should be able to compensate with the return of junior Willie Green (34 catches for 588 yards). Quarterback Mark Young, a three-year starter, is back, hoping to come back strong from an off season.

Defensively, Ole Miss must replace linebacker Jeff Herrod and find some depth. The Rebels' top defensive returnee is cornerback Stevon Moore.

KENTUCKY

Coach: Jerry Claiborne (30-35-3, 6 years; 168-111-8 overall, 26 years).

1987 Record: 1-5/T7th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Wide Tackle Six.

Key Losses: Carwell Gardner, DE; Dermontt Dawson, OG; Mark Higgs, TB; Tim Jones, SE; Jeff Kremer, LB; Greg Kunkel, OT; Brad Myers, C; Jerry Reese, DT; John Shannon, DG; Dee Smith, FL (suspended for disciplinary reasons); Butch Wilburn, OG.

Starters Returning: **Offense (4):** Charlie Darrington, TE, 6-3/220, Sr.; Glen Fohr, QB, 6-2/206, Sr.; Andy Murray, FB, 6-1/236, Jr.; Mike Pfeiffer, T, 6-7/290, Jr. **Defense (8):** Vic Adams, DG, 6-1/255, Jr.; Oliver Barnett, T, 6-3/278, Jr.; Chris Chenault, LB, 6-2/240, Sr.; Jay Dortch, E, 6-1/205, Sr.; David Johnson, CB, 6-1/192, Sr.; Ron Mack, CB, 5-10/183, Sr. (missed spring/shoulder); Tony Massey, E, 6-2/215, Jr.; Ron Robinson, S, 6-1/185, Jr.

Key Returnees: Al Baker, RB, Soph.; Randy Holleran, LB, Soph.; Doug Houser, DT, Jr.; Ivy Joe Hunter, RB, Sr.; Chris Tolbert, CB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Jerry Bell, OG (RS/achilles tendon); Alfred Jones, SE (JC); Alfred Rawls, TB (JC/injured ankle in spring practice).

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Bill Curry, Alabama; Galen Hall, Florida; Rocky Felker, Mississippi State.

Curry will return the Crimson Tide to the days of yesteryear and muzzle his obnoxious detractors. Hall is deserving of kudos for solidifying a Gator program in shambles. Felker saved a program heading nowhere fast. Hall and Felker are two of the nation's most talented up-and-coming coaches.

Most overrated coach: Pat Dye, Auburn.

Best coach: Vince Dooley, Georgia.

Best programs: Georgia, Louisiana State, Florida.

Programs on the rise: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi State.

The Crimson Tide is on the way up. Kentucky would compete for the conference championship in nearly any other league. The Bulldogs will be heard from.

Program on the decline: Auburn.

The Tigers will find the going tough in 1989.

Most underrated players: Oliver Barnett, DT, Kentucky; Terrill Chatman, OT, Alabama; Tommy Cole, DT, Alabama; Brent Collins, LB, Georgia; Charlie Darrington, TE, Kentucky; David



Best coach: Georgia's Vince Dooley

Fair, RB, Mississippi State; Pierre Goode, WR, Alabama; Willie Green, WR, Mississippi; Rodney Hampton, TB, Georgia; Rodney Lowe, DT, Mississippi; Craig Ogletree, LB, Auburn; Tony Robertson, C, Mississippi State; Ron Robinson, S, Kentucky; Ron Sancho, LB, Louisiana State; John Thomas, SE, Georgia; Jim Thompson, OG, Auburn; Kerry Watkins, CB, Florida;

Most overrated players: Carlo Cheatom, S, Auburn; Ivy Joe Hunter, RB, Kentucky.

Stars on the horizon: Al Baker, RB,

Kentucky; Jerry Bell, OG, Kentucky; Scott Bolt, DT, Alabama; Steve Brown, LB, Auburn; Chuck Carswell, CB, Georgia; Pat Coleman, WR, Mississippi; Norman Cowins, LB, Georgia; Demetrius Hill, DT, Mississippi State; Doug Jacobs, DT, Mississippi; Arthur Marshall, WR, Georgia; Anthony Morgan, WR, Tennessee; Kyle Morris, QB, Florida; Tony Moss, WR, Louisiana State; Godfrey Myles, TE/LB, Florida; Carl Pickens, WR, Tennessee; William Prince, TB, Mississippi State; Huey Richardson, LB, Florida; Derrell Robertson, LB, Mississippi State; David Rocker, DT, Auburn; Brian Stutson, CB, Alabama; Steve Webb, DE, Alabama; Jon Wilson, DT, Auburn.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi State; receivers—Auburn, Tennessee, Alabama; offensive linemen—Alabama, Georgia, Auburn; defensive linemen—Auburn, Louisiana State, Mississippi; linebackers—Auburn, Alabama, Louisiana State; defensive backfield—Alabama, Auburn, Florida.

Conference snake pits: Alabama, Auburn, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana State and Tennessee.

These schools are seldom tested at home.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Schedule: Central Michigan, Sept. 3; at Auburn, Sept. 10; at Indiana, Sept. 17; Kent State, Sept. 24; Alabama, Oct. 1; at Louisiana State, Oct. 15; Georgia, Oct. 22; Southern Illinois, Oct. 29; Vanderbilt, Nov. 5; Florida, Nov. 12; at Tennessee, Nov. 19.

Kentucky Coach Jerry Claiborne was convinced that 1987 was going to be the year that the Wildcats proved they belonged in the upper division of the SEC, and through the first five games many thought he might be right.

Kentucky was 4-1 after its first five starts, including a 35-6 thumping of Ole Miss and a 34-15 win over Indiana. Then came the second-half swoon when the Wildcats lost five of their last six.

If Kentucky is going to avoid the same fate with a brutal schedule that includes seven bowl teams from last season, it will have to do it with defense, where eight starters return to a unit that ranked third in the conference.

The Wildcats feel they have five all-star defensive candidates, headed by free safety Ron Robinson.

As excited as Claiborne is about his returning defenders, he is equally concerned about an offense that returns only four starters.

Tackle Mike Pfeifer and tight end Charlie Darrington are both all-conference candidates, but there is little else up front.

Quarterback Glenn Fohr returns after throwing for 973 yards and six touchdowns. Kentucky could have an excellent

tailback tandem in Ivy Joe Hunter (503 yards) and sophomore Al Baker.

VANDERBILT

Coach: Watson Brown (5-17, 2 years; 27-49-1 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 1-5/T7th; 4-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Andy Baker, S; Everett Crawford, TB; Billy Cunningham, LB; Chris Gaines, LB; Daryl Holt, C; Carl Parker, FL; Alan Roman, CB; Eric Snyder, DT; David Wurm, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Mills Fleming, T, 6-5/254, Sr.; Mike Johnson, G, 6-5/264, Sr.; Eric Jones, QB, 6-2/197, Sr.; Steve Kosanovich, SE, 6-3/217, Jr. (switched from TE); Andy McCarroll, FB, 6-3/225, Jr.; Boo Mitchell, SE, 5-11/181, Sr.; Charles Pierson, G, 6-3/262, Jr.; Greg Smith, T, 6-7/275, Jr. **Defense (5):** Joe Gentry, S, 6-0/202, Sr.; Cedric Moore, DT, 6-1/275, Soph. (switched from NG); Torrey Price, CB, 6-0/175, Jr.; Bob Scanlan, LB, 6-0/227, Sr.; DeMond Winston, LB, 6-3/233, Jr.

Key Returnees: Johnny Clark, K, Jr.; John DiNardi, OT, Soph. (RS/shoulder); Thor Erikson, C, Soph.; Brad Gaines, TB, Soph. (RS/ankle/switched from LB); Mark Johnson, TB, Jr.; Mark Kubow, DE, Soph. (RS); Tony Pearcey, FL, Sr.; Renford Reese, S, Jr. (switched from LB); Tim Richardson, S, Jr. (RS/switched from QB).

Top Newcomers: Rodney Barrett, WB, Sr.; Doug Bradley, DT, Jr.; Anthony Carter, RB; Bobby Craycraft, OG (RS); Bill Fitzpatrick, CB (RS); Derrick Gregg, WR; Corey Harris, RB/S; Rod Keith, DE (RS); David Lawrence, P; Oscar Malone, DT; Jeff Owen, P; Kenny Pulce, DE (RS/academics); David Summers, LB (RS).

Schedule: Mississippi State, Sept. 10; at

Rutgers, Sept. 17; at Alabama, Sept. 24; Duke, Oct. 1; at Georgia, Oct. 8; Florida, Oct. 15; Mississippi, Oct. 22; at Kentucky, Nov. 5; at Army, Nov. 12; at Memphis State, Nov. 19; Tennessee, Nov. 26.

Vanderbilt is nobody's mystery team. Coach Watson Brown or any Southeastern Conference observer will tell you that the Commodores are going to score a lot of points and that Eric Jones will be responsible for most of them.

Jones, a senior quarterback, is being touted as a Heisman Trophy candidate after leading the conference in both passing efficiency and total offense. Jones completed 139 of 229 passes (60.7 percent) for 1,954 yards and 16 touchdowns. He ran for another 665 yards, giving him a total of 2,619.

"If there is a better player in the country than Eric Jones, I haven't seen him," said Brown.

With Jones and seven other offensive starters returning from a team that averaged 26 points and 393 yards a game, Vanderbilt expects to move the ball and move it well. Doing so will simply be a matter of survival.

Tackle Cedric Moore and linebacker DeMond Winston are Vanderbilt's top defensive returnees. Moore will be moving from noseguard to tackle after being named all-conference as a freshman. Winston, a defensive end the past two seasons, will move to an outside linebacker spot. ■

Longhorns are looking to dethrone the Aggies

By KIRK BOHLS
Austin American-Statesman

They're all gone. Every last one of them. Any burnt-orange vestige of Texas' last Southwest Conference title team in 1983.

Well, all but one.

Second-year Coach David McWilliams was the defensive coordinator for that Longhorn team that swept through the regular season with a perfect 11-0 record and came within a fumbled punt in the Cotton Bowl of claiming a national championship.

He's back. And with him comes the makings of a Cotton contender—mainly on the strength of a quarterback and a tailback who were wide receivers two years ago. The Longhorns are hoping to loosen the stranglehold that Texas A&M has held on the league for three years.

Three might have been the charm, but four could do irreparable harm to a submissive league that has defeated the Aggies only three times in three years, never by more than six points.

Other than a resurgent Texas team, there could be little standing in the way of Jackie Sherrill's club returning to Dallas.

Aside from a thin defensive line and no dominant passing game, the Aggies face no insurmountable obstacles short of their own complacency.

Barring a strong bid by the Longhorns, Texas Tech and Arkansas could be the only other realistic hopefuls to show up in Dallas. The rest of the league will merely be playing for first-division berths—and respect, something that seems to be in short supply in the Southwest.

TEXAS

Coach: David McWilliams (7-5, 1 year; 14-9 overall, 2 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 6-5 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Thomas Aldridge, DE; Tony Griffin, DB; John Hagy, DB; Paul Jetton, OG; Gabriel Johnson, WR; Gerard Senegal, DB; Bret Stafford, QB.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Alan Champagne, C, 6-4/275, Sr.; Stephen Clark, TE, 6-5/234, Jr.; Ed Cunningham, T, 6-7/295, Sr.; Tony Jones, SE, 5-7/139, Jr.; Eric Metcalf, TB, 5-9/178, Sr.; Brian Nielsen, T, 6-3/305, Jr.; Darron Norris, FB, 5-9/195, Sr.; Omar Saleh, G, 6-0/260, Sr. **Defense (7):** Lee Brockman, LB, 6-2/225, Sr.; Bobby Duncum, E, 6-3/228, Sr.; Duane Duncum, LB, 6-3/232, Jr.; Ken Hackemack, T, 6-9/282, Jr.; Britt Hager, LB, 6-1/225, Sr.; Steve Llewellyn, T, 6-6/270, Sr.; Stanley Richard, S, 6-2/189, Soph. (switched from CB).

Key Returnees: Jorrick Battle, WR, Soph.; Paul Behrman, S, Soph.; Keith Cash, SE, Soph.; Kerry Cash, WR, Soph.; Wayne Clements, K, Jr.; Oscar Giles, DE, Soph.; Shannon Kelley, QB, Sr.; Bobby Lilljedahl, WR, Jr.; Brad Lucky, LB, Sr.; Tex Mercer, LB, Sr.; Kevin Nelson, SE, Sr.; Mical Padgett, LB, Soph.; Chris Samuels, FB, Soph.; Charles Seafous, OT, Soph.; Mark Steed, DE, Soph.; Fred Stromile, CB, Jr.; Darryl Taylor, FB, Sr.;

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. TEXAS

Watch out for the Longhorns, who return excellent skill-position talent.

2. TEXAS A&M

The Aggies have few weaknesses and a future Heisman candidate in Lewis.

3. TEXAS TECH

Boasting the best offense in the conference, the Red Raiders will be a force.

4. ARKANSAS

Hatfield, though he's the league's best coach, is on the hot seat.

5. BAYLOR

A rebuilt offensive line and Goebel are the keys to the Bears' success.

6. TEXAS CHRISTIAN

The Horned Frogs have the personnel to make a run at the Cotton Bowl.

7. HOUSTON

Thanks to Pardee, a first-division finish isn't out of the question.

8. RICE

Berndt faces a next-to-impossible task of rebuilding the Owls.

Alex Waits, P, Soph.; Johnny Walker, FL, Soph.; Eric Williams, TB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Jason Burleson, QB.

Schedule: At Brigham Young, Sept. 8; New Mexico, Sept. 17; North Texas State, Sept. 24; at Rice, Oct. 1; Oklahoma (at Dallas), Oct. 8; Arkansas, Oct. 15; at Texas Tech, Oct. 29; Houston, Nov. 5; at TCU, Nov. 12; at Baylor, Nov. 19; Texas A&M, Nov. 24.

For the first time in six years, the Longhorns will be coming off a bowl victory to start a season. Texas tied for second in the Southwest and punctuated a topsy-turvy 6-5 season with a 32-27 victory over Pittsburgh in the Bluebonnet Bowl.

The Longhorns' first postseason win since a 14-12 victory over Alabama in the 1982 Cotton Bowl led to one of the school's best recruiting hauls in more than a decade and puts the league's onetime power into a position to unseat Texas A&M.

Coach David McWilliams had the '87 Longhorns in a 13-13 tie with the Aggies midway through the fourth quarter before falling short in their bid for a Cotton Bowl berth.

Assuming that senior Shannon Kelley or redshirt freshman Mark Murdock can fill the void left by record-setting Bret Stafford at quarterback, and that Texas can find three replacements in its secondary, the Longhorns could be in business.

"We got a good ride out of that horse before he died," McWilliams said of his first season. "But it's always 'What have you done lately?'"

McWilliams can point to an incoming class that includes 11 highly touted linemen that could provide the key to success. Although most may not start, they could add much-needed depth to a team loaded

with skill people. That includes Heisman Trophy hopeful Eric Metcalf, a 1,161-yard rusher last season, and wide receiver Tony Jones, who caught a touchdown pass on the game's final play to upset Arkansas last year.

Despite blowout losses to Auburn, Oklahoma and Houston, McWilliams is looking for an encore of his Texas coaching debut. He'll enter the '88 campaign with eight offensive and seven defensive starters returning.

Back is Britt Hager, an all-conference middle linebacker who set a Texas record last season with 187 tackles. McWilliams calls the senior "our emotional leader."

Kelley, whose development was hurt by a one-year move to wide receiver two years ago, threw six interceptions and only one touchdown pass in 74 attempts last year. But McWilliams is quick to point out that he has a stronger arm than Stafford. And to ease the pain, the Longhorns scored 34 points or more five times last year and still have the receivers who made all but 40 of last season's 181 catches.

Four interior offensive linemen return, led by center Alan Champagne and tackle Ed Cunningham, but Texas will experience "fruit-basket turnover" in the defensive line with tackles and ends like Steve Llewellyn and Ken Hackemack being double-trained.

"We got worn down last year," said McWilliams, whose team gets to play host to contenders Texas A&M and Arkansas. "But we ended up strong in November. November hadn't been a good month in the past."

TEXAS A&M

Coach: Jackie Sherrill (45-23-1, 6 years; 98-40-2 overall, 12 years).

1987 Record: 6-1/1st; 9-2 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Tony Bartley, OT; Chet Brooks, S; Guy Broom, DE; Louis Cheeks, OT; Kip Corrington, S; Sylvester Morgan, TE; Sammy O'Brient, MG; Craig Stump, QB; Matt Wilson, C; Keith Woodside, RB.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Jerry Fontenot, G, 6-4/260, Sr.; Matt Gurley, FB, 6-0/215, Sr.; Rod Harris, SE, 5-11/183, Sr.; Gary Oliver, FL, 6-2/175, Soph.; Richmond Webb, G, 6-7/265, Jr. **Defense (7):** Dana Batiste, LB, 6-0/220, Sr.; Adam Bob, LB, 6-3/235, Sr.; Gary Jones, S, 6-2/210, Jr. (switched from CB); Alex Morris, CB, 6-2/195, Sr.; Terry Price, E, 6-4/240, Jr.; John Roper, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Aaron Wallace, LB, 6-4/230, Jr.

Key Returnees: Mike Arthur, C, Soph.; Bill Cavanaugh, OG, Jr.; Leon Cole, DE, Sr.; Larry Horton, RB, Soph.; O'Neill Gilbert, DE, Sr.; Basil Jackson, LB, Sr.; Joe Johnson, LB, Sr.; Tim Landrum, LB, Sr.; Darren Lewis, RB, Soph.; Matt McCall, OT, Soph.; L.B. Moon, OT, Sr.; Mike Pappas, C, Soph. (switched from OG); Lance Pavlas, GB, Soph.; Bucky Richardson, QB, Soph.; Brian Ross, TE, Jr.; Jeroy Robinson, LB, Jr.; Scott Slater, K, Sr.; Brent Smith, S, Sr.; William Thomas, S, Soph.; Percy Waddle, WR, Soph. (missed spring/knee); Mickey Washington, CB, Jr.;

Continued

Sean Wilson, P, Soph.; Chris Work, C, Soph.
Top Newcomers: Eric Brown, WR; Pat Cunningham, OT (JC); Shane Garrett, WR (Prop 48); Mike Jones, TE (JC); Greg Lakin, OT (RS); Steve Lofton, WR; Keith McAfee, RB (RS); Gerald Mitchell, RB (RS); Chris Osgood, QB (transfer/Mississippi); Cornelius Patterson, WR (Prop 48); Jason Rockhold, DL (JC); Randy Simmons, FB (RS); Robert Wilson, RB.

Schedule: Nebraska (at East Rutherford, N.J.), Aug. 27; at Louisiana State, Sept. 3; Alabama, Sept. 17; at Oklahoma State, Sept. 24; Texas Tech, Oct. 1; at Houston, Oct. 8; Baylor, Oct. 15; Rice, Oct. 22; Louisiana Tech, Nov. 5; at Arkansas, Nov. 12; Texas Christian, Nov. 19; at Texas, Nov. 24.

His quick-as-a-blink defense is supposed to be even quicker. He may have had the four best linebackers who weren't playing on Sunday, and they're all back. His best running back had three 100-yard games and scored eight touchdowns as a *freshman*. He has so much depth at quarterback that he moved his fourth-stringer to wide receiver. Of last year's 22 backups, 20 return.

Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard, this ain't.

In fact, the only thing about Texas A&M that is bare is Jackie Sherrill's fourth finger, the one that may well hold a fourth SWC championship ring after this season.

After his third consecutive season of nine or more wins, the Aggies' coach isn't even bothered by the fact that he is dwarfed by the bull's-eye on his back.

"What else is new?" Sherrill asked rhetorically. "We're just hopeful we'll be in

position to be in the hunt again."

A nightmarish 12-game schedule that Sherrill conservatively calls "ambitious" may be the one thing that will haunt him. Texas A&M kicks off the 1988 season with an August 27 game in the Kickoff Classic against Nebraska and then has road games with Louisiana State and Oklahoma State sandwiched around a home game with Alabama.

"The coach doesn't sleep," said Sherrill, the team's coach and athletic director, whose Aggies also must travel to Arkansas and Texas, "but the AD does."

About the only other things making Sherrill restless are the loss of four offensive linemen, two defensive linemen and a pair of highly regarded defensive backs.

"The worst position that hurts you is center," Sherrill said. "It's more important to have one center than one quarterback."

Sophomore Mike Arthur should be able to fill the void as a snapper, but Texas A&M will be looking hard at the quarterbacks who will try to replace Craig Stump.

Sophomore Bucky Richardson, an option specialist who was 5-0 as a starter and the star of the Aggies' 35-10 Cotton Bowl win over Notre Dame last season, will get first crack. But he completed less than 36 percent of his passes. Lance Pavlas is a strong-armed sophomore who was credited with a minus-31 yards rushing in eight games, and Chris Osgood is a transfer from Ole Miss, where he started

seven games two years ago.

Tailback Darren Lewis, who ran for 668 yards, and standout receivers Rod Harris and Percy Waddle will make the job easier for whomever lines up behind center.

Defensively, the Aggies return seven starters from a self-proclaimed "Wrecking Crew" that demolished the league and was ranked seventh nationally. Consensus All-America John Roper, who had 15 sacks and pressured the passer 11 more times, heads up a group of rabid, race-horse linebackers that includes junior Aaron Wallace and seniors Dana Batiste and Adam Bob.

TEXAS TECH

Coach: Spike Dykes (6-5-1, 1 years).
1987 Record: 3-3-1/4th; 6-4-1 overall.
Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Ricky Boysaw, DE; Tony Durden, LB; Eric Everett, CB; Artis Jackson, DT; Michael Johnson, LB; Jeff Keith, OG; Bryan Lee, C; Mike McBride, OG; Brian Rollins, LB; David Stickels, OT; Lemuel Stinson, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Eddy Anderson, SE, 5-9/160, Sr.; Ervin Farris, FB, 5-11/220, Sr.; James Gray, RB, 5-10/210, Jr.; Charles Odiorno, T, 6-4/270, Jr.; Billy Joe Tolliver, QB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Wayne Walker, FL, 5-9/160, Sr.; Phil Young, TE, 6-2/220, Sr. **Defense (4):** Boyd Cowan, S, 6-1/200, Sr.; Donald Harris, S, 6-1/180, Soph.; James Mosley, LB, 6-1/230, Sr. (switched from DE); Desmond Royal, T, 6-1/265, Sr.

Key Returns: Isaac Garnett, LB, Sr. (switched from FB); Troy Henington, DT, Jr.; Jessie Hurst, OT, Jr.; Eddie Kittle, DE, Sr.; Terry Lynch, DE, Sr.; Dean Marusak, CB, Sr.; Charles Perry, DT, Jr.; Travis Price, SE, Jr. (RS); Merv Scurllark, S (RS/knee); Scott Segrist, K, Sr.; Chris Shafer, OG, Sr.; Kevin Sprinkles, TE, Jr.; Tyrone Thurman, WR, Sr.; Jim Vasquez, CB, Sr.; Dai Watson, LB, Sr.; Clifton Winston, LB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Charles Lott, TE (RS/Prop 48/switched from FB); Chester Fuller, RB (Prop 48); Scottie Littleton, RB (Prop 48); Anthony Lynn, RB (RS); Anthony McDowell, FB (RS); Louis Sheffield, RB (RS); Kevin Walker, CB (RS); Sammy Walker, CB (RS).

Schedule: North Texas State, Sept. 3; at Arizona, Sept. 10; Baylor, Sept. 24; at Texas A&M, Oct. 1; at Arkansas, Oct. 8; at Rice, Oct. 15; Texas, Oct. 22; at Texas Christian, Nov. 5; Lamar, Nov. 12; Houston, Nov. 19; Oklahoma State (at Tokyo), Dec. 4.

Who'll Fill Stafford's Shoes?



Quarterback Shannon Kelley's ability has been questioned over the years, but then so was Bret Stafford's for a while, and he finished his career as Texas' all-time leader in passing yardage.

With just one year of eligibility remaining, Kelley can't duplicate Stafford's performance. But he is planning to make the most of his opportunity to replace him.

"Bret's gone and someone's got to fill his shoes," Kelley said. "I've waited for this opportunity a long time. It's something I've dreamed of."

Starting for the Longhorns looked like a dream for Kelley in 1986, when former coach Fred Akers used him as a receiver because he thought Kelley wasn't cut out for quarterback. David McWilliams, who replaced Akers after that season, also wondered.

He isn't wondering now. Kelley saw extensive action last season as Stafford's backup, completing 47 of 74 passes for 541 yards and one touchdown, and now has stepped into a starting role as a senior. With juniors

Rob McManis and Donovan Forbes out for the spring, Kelley's only real competition has come from redshirt freshman Mark Murdock. Jason Burleson, a highly touted 6-7 freshman, could make some noise in the fall.

McWilliams has been pleased with Kelley's progress.

"This is the most relaxed he's been," he said. "He seems much more confident."

Though Kelley made some mistakes in 1987, he was impressive in outings against Houston and Texas Christian.

"I have experience coming into this year," he said. "I played quite a bit last year and I got some confidence."

The 6-foot-1, 170-pounder isn't quite the scrambler Stafford was, but he has a much stronger arm. Kelley, however, isn't interested in comparisons.

"You can't compare yourself to someone who has done what Bret has," Kelley said. "You start doing that and you sell yourself short. All I can do is my best."

—MELANIE HAUSER



Shannon Kelley

points in three games and finished strong at 3-1-1 over its last five outings. The bad news was a 10-10 finale against Houston in a game that the Red Raiders led, 10-0, midway through the fourth quarter and needed to win to clinch a second consecutive berth in the Independence Bowl. Neither came true.

"We had a chance to re-establish ourselves as a football team," said Dykes, who watched his team deal Texas A&M its only loss one week and then lose the next at home to Arkansas, 31-0. "We were non-existent against Arkansas. We can't be up and down and have that roller-coaster effect. All the icing was taken off the cake that last game."

The Red Raiders' high-powered offense will be dependent on an offensive line that will be rebuilt around the lone returning starter, tackle Charles Odiorne. Dykes said he has one returning starter and six total linemen "who have ever entered a college game."

The coach is confident that he can fill those holes, but expresses concern about his linebacking corps.

"We were completely, totally devastated at linebacker," Dykes said. "We moved James Mosley there from defensive end, and I think it'll take."

Two tight ends, a fullback and fifth-year senior safety Merv Scurlark also were switched to the position to bolster a defense that played well at times but "let our dress blow up in the fourth quarter."

Texas Tech's top two returning defenders are tackle Desmond Royal and safety Donald Harris.

ARKANSAS

Coach: Ken Hatfield (35-13-1, 4 years; 62-44-2 overall, 9 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 9-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Chris Bequette, OT; Tony Cherico, NG; David Schell, DT; John Stitten, OG; Greg Thomas, QB; Sammy Van Dyke, FB; Erik Whitted, LB; Rickey Williams, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Freddie Childress, G, 6-4/328, Sr. (missed spring/ankle); Tim Horton, SE, 5-9/179, Jr.; Joe Johnson, HB, 6-0/210, Sr.; Jim Mabry, T, 6-4/267, Jr.; James Rouse, HB, 6-1/222, Sr.; Billy Winston, TE, 6-2/239, Jr. **Defense (7):** Steve Atwater, S, 6-4/216, Sr.; Richard Brothers, CB, 6-1/201, Sr.; Anthony Cooney, CB, 6-2/200, Jr.; Albert Harris, E, 6-2/232, Jr.; Odis Lloyd, S, 5-9/198, Sr.; Wayne Martin, T, 6-5/263, Sr.; Kerry Owens, LB, 6-2/232, Sr.

Key Returnees: John Bland, QB, Sr.; Kerry Crawford, NG, Sr.; Ben Floor, CB, Soph.; Barry Foster, FB, Soph.; Quinn Grove, QB, Soph.; Reggie Hall, LB, Sr.; LaSalle Harper, LB, Sr.; Tony Holmes, WB, Jr.; Todd Jones, OT, Jr.; Chad Rolen, NG, Soph.; Derek Russell, SE, Soph.; Michael Shepherd, DT, Jr.; Kendall Trainor, K, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Curtis Banks, CB (RS); Kirk Collins, S (RS); Mark Henry, OG (RS); Scott Long, TE; Kerwin Price, HB (RS); Dwayne Spann, C (RS); Kelvin Thomas, WB; Jimmy Williams, QB (JC); John Williamson, LB.

Schedule: Pacific (at Little Rock), Sept. 3; Tulsa, Sept. 10; Mississippi (at Little Rock), Sept. 17; Texas Christian, Oct. 1; Texas Tech (at Little Rock), Oct. 8; at Texas, Oct. 15; at Houston, Oct. 22; Rice (at Little Rock), Oct. 29; at Baylor, Nov. 5; Texas A&M, Nov. 12; at Miami (Fla.), Nov. 26.



Arkansas won't abandon the flexbone as long as it has a Heisman-quality halfback like James Rouse.

Arkansas finally may pass for a 20th Century college football team.

In perceptions as well as receptions.

The Razorbacks have modernized their flexbone offense, adding a wingback as an extra receiver, to improve an attack that averaged only six completions per game last year and had just three touchdowns through the air in 12 regular-season games.

For perspective, consider that split end Derek Russell led the club with 16 total catches, one more than Houston's Jason Phillips had in a single, record-tying game last year.

"The first five days of spring practice, we didn't run any option plays," said Coach Ken Hatfield, who has been under fire since his conference-favored team finished (tied for) second for the third straight year and lost a bowl game for the third time in four years to wind up 9-4. "We threw it every down. We've made a commitment to it. But there are not a lot of teams that can win with a third-team quarterback."

Third-year sophomore Quinn Grove, a quick option-type quarterback who was instrumental in four of Arkansas' five conference wins, fought through hip, ankle and groin injuries last year and appears to be the man for the job.

The Hogs won't completely abandon the bone, mainly because they have a Heisman-quality halfback in senior James Rouse, who rushed for 1,004 yards last season and has scored 28 touchdowns in three years.

A slimmed-down Freddie Childress has shrunk from 365 pounds to 328, but the senior guard will still anchor an offensive line that has only one other starter back.

The Hogs, who play their first five games at home, have revamped their defense as well and must replace both linebackers and nose guard Tony Cherico. After finishing next-to-last in the conference in pass defense despite 22 interceptions, the Arkansas secondary has been switched from a three-deep set with a rover to a four-man formation.

Considering half of the alignment will still include 1986 all-conference safety Steve Atwater and cornerback Richard Brothers—a former high school All-America in basketball and a two-time state decathlon champion in Arkansas, respectively—the Razorbacks will not be devoid of athletes back there.

BAYLOR

Coach: Grant Teaff (63-57-3, 16 years; 138-127-7 overall, 25 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/T5th; 6-5 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Ben Baker, FL; Matt Clark, SE; Kobe Fornes, TE; Henry Green, DT; Terry Hancock, OT; Mike Hensley, C; Jeff Palmer, OG; Joel Porter, OT; Russell Sheffield, DT; Errol Ware, OG.

Starters Returning: Offense (3): Brad Goebel, QB, 6-3/195, Soph.; Jeffrey Murray, HB, 5-10/221, Jr.; Charles Perry, HB, 5-10/200, Sr. **Defense (9):** Robert Blackmon, S, 5-11/198, Jr.; Norris Blount, CB, 6-1/200, Sr.; Sam Collins, E, 6-6/261, Sr.; Ray Crockett, CB, 5-9/190, Jr.; James Francis, LB, 6-5/232, Jr.; John Godfrey, LB, 6-4/240, Soph.; Eugene Hall, E, 6-4/249, Sr.; Gary Joe Kinne, LB, 5-11/227, Jr.; Mike Welch, S, 6-2/200, Jr.

Key Returnees: Greg Anderson, SE, Soph.; Vince Carpenter, DT, Sr.; Willie Everett, DT, Sr. (switched from OG); Malcolm Frank, CB, Soph.; Eric Gilstrap, FB, Jr.; Bobby Joe Goforth, FL, Jr.; Gary Hays, LB, Jr. (missed spring practice/ankle); Reggie Howard, DE, Soph.; Greg Oefinger, DT, Soph.; John Simpson, SE, Sr. (RS/knee); Dennis Smith, OT, Sr.; Steve Stutsman, TE, Soph.; Terry Syler, K, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Santana Dotson, DE (RS); Anthony Ray, RB (RS/knee); Bobby Sign, C (transfer/Pittsburgh).

Schedule: UNLV, Sept. 3; at Kansas, Sept. 10; at Iowa State, Sept. 17; at Texas Tech, Sept. 24; Houston, Oct. 1; Southwest Texas State, Oct. 8; at Texas A&M, Oct. 15; at TCU, Oct. 22; Arkansas, Nov. 5; at Rice, Nov. 12; Texas, Nov. 19.

The Bears had so much trouble running to daylight last season that the pundits wondered why Grant Teaff didn't just schedule all night games.

Baylor's 2.4-yard rushing average was by far the worst in the conference.

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	EDDY ANDERSON, Texas Tech	5-09	160	Senior
WR	WAYNE WALKER, Texas Tech	5-09	160	Senior
TE	RICKY STONE, Texas Christian	6-04	250	Senior
T	ED CUNNINGHAM, Texas	6-07	295	Senior
T	CHARLES ODIORNE, Texas Tech	6-04	270	Junior
C	ALAN CHAMPAGNE, Texas	6-04	275	Senior
G	FREDDIE CHILDRESS, Arkansas	6-04	328	Senior
G	JERRY FONTENOT, Texas A&M	6-04	260	Senior
QB	BILLY JOE TOLLIVER, Texas Tech	6-01	205	Senior
RB	ERVIN FARRIS, Texas Tech	5-11	220	Senior
RB	JAMES GRAY, Texas Tech	5-10	210	Junior
RB	*ERIC METCALF, Texas	5-09	178	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	KEN HACKEMACK, Texas	6-09	282	Junior
DL	EUGENE HALL, Baylor	6-04	249	Senior
DL	STEVE LLEWELLYN, Texas	6-06	270	Senior
DL	WAYNE MARTIN, Arkansas	6-05	263	Senior
DL	DESMOND ROYAL, Texas Tech	6-01	265	Senior
LB	JAMES FRANCIS, Baylor	6-05	232	Junior
LB	BRITT HAGER, Texas	6-01	225	Senior
LB	JOHN ROPER, Texas A&M	6-02	235	Senior
LB	AARON WALLACE, Texas A&M	6-04	230	Junior
DB	STEVE ATWATER, Arkansas	6-04	216	Senior
DB	ROBERT BLACKMON, Baylor	5-11	198	Junior
DB	DONALD HARRIS, Texas Tech	6-01	180	Soph.
DB	FALANDA NEWTON, Texas Christian	6-02	200	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	WAYNE CLEMENTS, Texas	6-00	175	Junior
P	CHRIS BECKER, Texas Christian	6-02	185	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	TONY JONES, Texas	5-07	139	Junior
WR	JASON PHILLIPS, Houston	5-09	175	Senior
WR	*TYRONE THURMAN, Texas Tech	5-03	135	Senior
TE	STEPHEN CLARK, Texas	6-05	234	Junior
T	TODD JONES, Arkansas	6-03	289	Soph.
T	MATT MCCALL, Texas A&M	6-08	300	Soph.
C	COURTNEY HALL, Rice	6-02	260	Senior
G	ROB ADAMS, Texas Christian	6-05	294	Junior
G	MIKE SULLIVAN, Texas Christian	6-02	272	Soph.
QB	BRAD GOEBEL, Baylor	6-03	195	Soph.
RB	DARREN LEWIS, Texas A&M	5-11	210	Soph.
RB	JAMES ROUSE, Arkansas	6-01	222	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	MITCHELL BENSON, Texas Christian	6-05	285	Senior
DL	SAM COLLINS, Baylor	6-06	261	Senior
DL	ALBERT HARRIS, Arkansas	6-02	232	Junior
DL	KEITH JENKINS, Houston	6-05	215	Senior
DL	TRACY SIMIEN, Texas Christian	6-03	248	Senior
LB	DANA BATISTE, Texas A&M	6-00	220	Senior
LB	ADAM BOB, Texas A&M	6-03	235	Senior
LB	JOHN GODFREY, Baylor	6-04	240	Soph.
LB	LaSALLE HARPER, Arkansas	6-01	240	Senior
DB	RAY CROCKETT, Baylor	5-09	190	Junior
DB	JOHNNY JACKSON, Houston	6-01	193	Senior
DB	ALEX MORRIS, Texas A&M	6-02	195	Senior
DB	MIKE WELCH, Baylor	6-02	200	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	SCOTT SLATER, Texas A&M	6-00	180	Senior
P	ALEX WAITS, Texas	6-03	195	Soph.

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Stone



Childress



Tolliver



Gray



E. Hall



Llewellyn



Francis



Hager

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Jeffery, Texas Christian	202	1353	10
Metcalf, Texas	223	1161	10
Gray, Texas Tech	199	1006	12
Rouse, Arkansas	182	1004	17
Darhard, TCU	142	878	4
Anders, Houston	153	841	8
Cyphers, Rice	170	751	5
Lewis, Texas A&M	127	668	8
Norris, Texas	121	635	3
Winston, Texas Tech	87	514	2

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
Toman, Texas Tech	95	59	129.9
Grovey, Arkansas	62	38	126.1
Thomas, Arkansas	51	29	115.0
Goebel, Baylor	305	158	113.7
Rascoe, TCU	173	88	106.9
Roper, Rice	158	76	94.6
Stafford, Texas	250	127	94.0
Comalander, Rice	214	102	93.1
Stump, Texas A&M	98	41	77.2

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Phillips, Houston	99	875	3
Anders, Houston	61	707	6
Dixon, Houston	59	659	3
Johnson, Texas	40	466	3
Jones, Texas	31	457	4
Metcalf, Texas	33	238	0
Walker, Texas Tech	32	659	5
Cyphers, Rice	31	187	1
Boudousquie, Rice	30	394	1
Anderson, Texas Tech	30	449	2

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Jeffery, Texas Christian	219	1610	161.0
Anders, Houston	214	1548	140.7
Metcalf, Texas	256	1399	127.2
Gray, Texas Tech	219	1177	107.0
Rouse, Arkansas	194	1125	93.8
Darhard, TCU	150	943	85.7
Cyphers, Rice	201	938	85.3
Jones, Rice	107	859	78.1
Woodside, Texas A&M	137	857	77.9
Norris, Texas	142	826	75.1

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Becker, Texas Christian	59	2594	44.0
Waits, Texas	43	1873	43.6
Rutter, Baylor	66	2672	40.5
Wilson, Texas A&M	42	1699	40.5
Rodriguez, Houston	70	2816	40.2

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Metcalf, Texas	24	324	13.5
Harris, Texas A&M	37	391	10.6
Phillips, Houston	15	156	10.4
Thurman, Texas Tech	35	323	9.2
Horton, Arkansas	25	224	8.9

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Browndyke, Houston	24	19	1.7
Clements, Texas	23	16	1.5
Slater, Texas A&M	22	15	1.4
Segrist, Texas Tech	18	13	1.2
Trainor, Arkansas	20	13	1.1

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Dixon, Houston	33	908	27.5
Roper, Rice	19	438	23.0
Harris, Texas A&M	15	329	21.9

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Jackson, Houston	8	218	.73
Newton, Texas Christian	7	117	.64
Cowan, Texas Tech	6	66	.55
Blackmon, Baylor	5	81	.45
Welch, Baylor	5	28	.45

Charles Perry, the team's leading ground-gainer, produced Baylor's only 100-yard game but finished with an unimpressive total of 494 yards.

To add to the dilemma, blue-chipper Anthony Ray sat out last season with a knee injury and then underwent major knee surgery in February to further delay his debut.

"He has all the ingredients you'd want in a Heisman Trophy winner," Teaff said. "But if he comes back this season, it'd strictly be a bonus for us."

In his absence, Baylor will rely on all-conference quarterback Brad Goebel, a sophomore who threw for a league-leading 2,178 yards and nine touchdowns.

To protect their quarterback, the Bears must replace everybody on their offensive line. They should receive a major boost from 286-pound Bobby Sign, a three-year starter at Pittsburgh before transferring to Baylor.

Three-fourths of the Bears' secondary—safeties Robert Blackmon and Mike Welch and cornerbacks Ray Crockett and Norris Blount, the son of former Steeler All-Pro Mel Blount—made at least one all-conference team.

Other defensive stalwarts are line-backer James Francis and end Eugene Hall.

"We were terrible last year," said Teaff, whose team raced to a 5-1 start but won only one of its last six games. "But we were an eyelash away from being 8-3. We'll be a little better this year, but you can't be an outstanding team with a young offensive and defensive line."

TEXAS CHRISTIAN

Coach: Jim Wacker (20-34-2, 5 years; 124-67-3 overall, 17 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/T5th; 5-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Brian Brazil, OT; Clint Hailey, C; Tony Jeffery, RB; Tommy Sharp, S; David Spradlin, DE; Floyd Terrell, LB; Kent Tramel, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Rob Adams, G, 6-5/294, Jr.; Tony Darthard, HB, 5-9/198, Jr.; Reggie Davis, SE, 6-2/215, Sr.; Jarrod Delaney, FL, 6-2/205, Sr.; Jeff Hopkins, T, 6-4/273, Jr.; David Rascoe, QB, 5-11/188, Sr.; Ricky Stone, TE, 6-4/250, Sr.; Mike Sullivan, G, 6-3/272, Soph. **Defense (7):** Mitchell Benson, T, 6-5/285, Sr.; LeVoll Crump, S, 6-3/208, Soph. (switched from CB); Paul Llewellyn, LB, 6-4/230, Sr.; Greg Moore, LB, 6-0/220, Jr.; Falanda Newton, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; Tracy Simien, E, 6-3/248, Sr.; Andre Spencer, CB, 6-1/185, Sr.

Key Returnees: Scott Ankrom, QB, Sr. (missed 10 games/hamstring; played FL and RB in spring); Chris Becker, P, Sr.; Scott Bednarski, FB, Sr.; Tony Brooks, CB, Jr.; Mike Bulla, OG, Jr.; Bobby Davis, RB, Sr.; Darrell Davis, DE, Jr.; John Dull, LB, Soph.; Dennis Gooch, OT, Sr.; Ron Jiles, QB, Jr.; Ron Lewis, DE, Sr.; Robert McWright, CB, Jr. (RS); Lee Newman, K, Sr.; Stanley Petry, CB, Sr. (switched from FL); Fred Washington, DT, Jr.; Jess Williams, OG, Sr.

Newcomers: Kelly Blackwell, TE (RS); Cedric Jackson, RB (JC); John Marsh, DT (RS); Jordy Reynolds, LB (RS).

Schedule: At Georgia, Sept. 10; Bowling Green State, Sept. 17; Boston College, Sept. 24; Arkansas, Oct. 1; Rice, Oct. 8; at Brigham Young, Oct. 15; Baylor, Oct. 22; at Houston, Oct. 29; Texas Tech, Nov. 5; Texas, Nov. 12; at Texas A&M, Nov. 19.



Baylor quarterback Brad Goebel threw for a league-leading 2,178 yards and nine touchdowns last season.

TCU has always run the ball well. And in between a dismal 1-3 start and an abysmal 0-3 finish last year, TCU sandwiched one of its best runs ever under Coach Jim Wacker.

After the Horned Frogs had knocked off a Brigham Young team that had just beaten Texas in an early-season game, they shut out Baylor on the road and dominated Houston during a four-game winning streak. The bottom line, though, still read 5-6 and a fifth-place tie for the league's most schizophrenic team.

"We haven't been there (as champions) before," said Wacker, whose teams have four second-division finishes in his five years and are 1-13-1 in their final three games over that span. "We haven't proven anything yet. It's time for the Horned Frogs to prove they can play with anybody and get over that psychological hump."

Not all the Frogs' scars are mental, however. TCU lost five starters to knee surgery in the spring, but is counting on running backs Tony Darthard (badly sprained ankle) and Bobby Davis (dislocated shoulder) to be healthy in the fall.

Despite playing in the shadow of now-departed Tony Jeffery, the league's No. 4 career rusher, Darthard accounted for 878 yards and a 6.2-yard average for the conference's best offensive club.

Scott Ankrom has been hurt so often he should consider medical school. Regardless, he will be tried at halfback and receiver as well as at quarterback along with returning quarterback David Rascoe

in Wacker's smorgasbord of an offense.

"If it's been drawn up on paper, we'll run it," said Wacker, whose hybrid veer-wishbone-dropback pass offense produced just under 400 yards a game in '87.

Although the defense, TCU's perennial bugaboo, allowed 102 points in the last three games to cost itself a bowl berth, Wacker said that this year's unit should be "the best defense we've had since I've been here."

Wacker will have the league's premier defensive back in second-team All-America Falanda Newton, a free safety.

Newton will be surrounded by a defensive line that has 6-5, 290-pound Mitchell Benson at tackle and Tracy Simien and Darrell Davis at ends.

HOUSTON

Coach: Jack Pardee (4-6-1, 1 year).

1987 Record: 2-4-1/7th; 3-7-1 overall.

Offense: Run and Shoot. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Tim Britton, C; Robert Harper, LB; Derrick Hoskins, LB; Robert Jones, S; Gary McGuire, LB; Reggie Rhodes, WB.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Kimble

Anders, RB, 5-11/170, Jr.; Joey Banas, T, 6-7/280, Jr.; David Dacus, QB, 6-2/215, Sr.; Byron Forsythe, T, 6-3/285, Jr.; William Gant, C, 6-2/300, Sr. (switched from G); Paul Hearn, G, 6-4/280, Sr.; Kevin Mason, WR, 6-2/155, Jr.; Jason Phillips, WB, 5-9/175, Sr.; Brian Williams, WR, 5-10/160, Soph. **Defense (7):** Johnny Jackson, CB, 6-1/193, Sr.; Keith Jenkins, E, 6-5/215, Sr.; Glenn Montgomery, T, 6-0/265, Sr.; Johnny Norwood, S, 6-3/183, Sr.; Alfred Oglesby, T, 6-3/270, Jr.; Derrick Price, CB, 6-0/200, Sr.; Craig Veasey, E, 6-3/276, Sr.

Key Returnees: Jet Brown, WB, Sr.; Reggie Burnette, LB, Soph. (switched from RB); James Dixon, WR, Sr.; Lamar Lathon, LB, Jr.; Del Montgomery, OG, Sr.; Ed Powers, QB, Jr.; Simon Rodriguez, P, Jr.; Paul Smith, WR, Jr.; John Stankus, RB, Sr.; Edward Thomas, LB, Jr.; Andre Ware, QB, Soph.; Darren Warren, DE, Jr.; Chuck Weatherspoon, RB, Soph. **Top Newcomers:** Mecridric Calloway, CB (JC); Ronnie Johnson, WR; Robert McDade, LB (RS/transfer/Southern Methodist); Alton Montgomery, S (JC); John Morris, C; Quinton Tezeno, S.

Schedule: At Louisiana Tech, Sept. 10; at Missouri, Sept. 17; at Baylor, Oct. 1; Texas A&M, Oct. 8; Tulsa, Oct. 15; Arkansas, Oct. 22; TCU, Oct. 29; at Texas, Nov. 5; Wyoming, Nov. 12; at Texas Tech, Nov. 19; Rice, Nov. 26.

In his first year at Houston, Coach Jack Pardee must have thought he was in charge of the school's baseball team.

Until he broke his arm against Wyoming in the fifth game of the season, freshman Andre Ware was tossing up a storm and establishing himself as the Cougars' quarterback of the future. In all, Pardee used three quarterbacks, including Ed Powers and David Dacus, each of whom had 364 or more yards passing in a game.

"Dacus is definitely the incumbent, although Ware won the job early," Pardee said. "He has to be beaten out."

More immediate than deciding on his No. 1 quarterback, Pardee is concerned with locating a center, the only missing link in the line. As a necessity, he will probably switch Byron Forsythe, one of

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Grant Teaff, Baylor; Ken Hatfield, Arkansas.

Both win consistently. Hatfield ranks with the best even though some Razorback fans would disagree.

Best coaches: Jackie Sherrill, Texas A&M; Ken Hatfield, Arkansas.

Sherrill rebuilt a woeful Aggie program. His team now strives for its fourth consecutive Cotton Bowl.

Best programs: Texas A&M, Texas, Arkansas.

The Longhorns are closing the gap and Hatfield is reloading.

Worst program: Rice.

We must give Coach Jerry Berndt credit for attempting to revive the dead.

Programs on the rise: Houston, Texas Tech.

These programs are stockpiling skill-position talent.

Program on the decline: Texas Christian.

The Horned Frogs have enough talent to compete for the league title, yet always seem to fall short. Some question Wacker's on-the-field coaching ability.

Most underrated players: Kimble Anders, RB, Houston; Tommy Darthard,



Underrated: Texas fullback Darron Norris

RB, Texas Christian; Reggie Davis, SE, Texas Christian; Ervin Farris, FB, Texas Tech; Matt Gurley, FB, Texas A&M; Courtney Hall, C, Rice; Eugene Hall, DE, Baylor; Wayne Martin, DT, Arkansas; James Mosley, DE, Texas Tech; Darron Norris, FB, Texas; Greg Oefinger, DT, Baylor; Gary Oliver, FL, Texas A&M; Charles Odiorne, OT, Texas Tech; Percy Waddle, WR, Texas A&M; Mike Welch, S, Baylor; Clifton Winston, IB, Texas Tech.

Most overrated players: Rod Harris, SE, Texas A&M; Alex Morris, CB, Texas

A&M; James Rouse, HB, Arkansas; Tyrone Thurman, FL, Texas Tech.

Stars on the horizon: Jason Burleson, QB, Texas; Mecridric Calloway, CB, Houston; Kirk Collins, S, Arkansas; Santana Dotson, DE, Baylor; John Godfrey, LB, Baylor; Eric Henley, RB, Rice; Reggie Howard, DE, Baylor; Jessie Hurst, OT, Texas Tech; Cedric Jackson, RB, Texas Christian; Todd Jones, OT, Arkansas; Charles Lott, TE, Texas Tech; John Marsh, DT, Texas Christian; Anthony McDowell, FB, Texas Tech; Derek Russell, SE, Arkansas; Bobby Sign, C, Baylor; Randy Simmons, FB, Texas A&M; Dwayne Spann, C, Arkansas.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Texas; receivers—Texas Tech, Texas, Texas A&M; offensive linemen—Texas A&M, Texas, Texas Christian; defensive linemen—Texas, Arkansas, Baylor; linebackers—Texas A&M, Baylor, Texas; defensive backfield—Baylor, Texas A&M, Arkansas.

Conference snake pits: Texas A&M, Texas.

The Aggies have become dominant in College Station. It is still difficult to escape Austin with a victory.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

his two returning tackles.

If the line can provide protection, Houston may see numbers similar to last year. Ware put up 62 passes—the second-most in conference history—against Baylor while Dacus threw for 450 yards and had a league-record 442 yards of total offense in a 45-21 win over Rice as the Cougars closed with three wins and a tie to finish 4-6-1.

"We didn't lose in the last month," Pardee said. "We were a pretty good team at the end of the year."

Running back Kimble Anders produced 791 yards and eight touchdowns as a sophomore in an offense that ran for only 776 yards as a team. That was because junior Jason Phillips was too busy catching a conference-record 99 passes, the fifth-highest total in Division I-A history.

"I think he can match that and even add to it in different ways," said Pardee, who also has premier kick returner James Dixon and Jet Brown as other targets.

Houston averaged 44-plus passes a game and threw for 3,265 yards—more than 1,000 more than the league's next-best passing team—and promises more of the same in '87.

Defense, however, is a different story.

Houston allowed 421 yards per game, and the loss of all-conference linebacker Gary McGuire doesn't bode well.

Robert McDade, a 230-pound defensive tackle who transferred from SMU, and talented cornerback Johnny Jackson will

key Pardee's hopes for defensive improvement.

RICE

Coach: Jerry Berndt (2-9, 1 year; 44-43-3 overall, 9 years).

1987 Record: 0-7/8th; 2-9 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Kyle Falk, LB; Eric Johnson, DT; Todd Jones, RB; Russell Moses, OT; Dexter Scott, NG.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Mike Boudousquie, WR, 6-2/190, Sr.; Lorenzo Cyphers, FB, 5-10/215, Sr.; Mike Gonzales, T, 6-3/270, Sr.; Courtney Hall, C, 6-2/260, Sr.; Allen Koch, G, 6-3/280, Jr.; Chris Nixon, WR, 6-3/195, Sr.; Quentis Roper, QB, 5-9/175, Sr.; Joey Roseborough, T, 6-5/260, Soph.; Melvin Turner, TE, 6-1/230, Jr. **Defense (7):** Donald Bowers, LB, 6-2/220, Soph.; Nigel Codrington, CB, 6-2/195, Soph.; Donald Hollas, S, 6-3/220, Soph.; Jeff Hood, LB, 6-4/230, Sr.; Wade Lee, LB, 6-1/215, Sr.; William McClay, CB, 6-0/190, Sr.; Roy Thompson, S, 6-1/200, Sr.

Key Returnees: O.J. Brigrance, LB, Soph.; Everett Coleman, DB, Jr.; Will Hollas, LB, Jr. (RS/knee); Ted Humphreys, NG, Sr.; Brad McKay, LB, Sr.; Richard Williams, RB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Paul Brotze, LB (RS); Joel Dawson, LB (RS); Craig Desmond, DT (JC); Richard Duggan, LB (RS); David Griffin, DB (RS); Eric Henley, RB/WR (RS); Jim Murphy, OT (JC); Jacques Torres, DT (RS); Mike Wylie, LB (RS).

Schedule: Indiana, Sept. 10; at Southwestern Louisiana, Sept. 24; Texas, Oct. 1; at Texas Christian, Oct. 8; Texas Tech, Oct. 15; at Texas A&M, Oct. 22; Arkansas (at Little Rock), Oct. 29; at Notre Dame, Nov. 5; Baylor, Nov. 12; North Texas State, Nov. 19; at Houston, Nov. 26.

In a year in which the conference record books were assaulted, Rice set conference marks in two areas that won't have Coach Jerry Berndt bragging. Those are most kickoffs returned (70) and most yards on kickoff returns (1,278)—not exactly standards of excellence.

The Owls were running back so many kickoffs because their defense was allowing 54 touchdowns, 23 more than any other conference team. Offenses averaged 478 yards against a revolving-door unit that lost 10 starters for a minimum of two games.

The return of two quality inside linebackers (Will Hollas and O.J. Brigrance) who received medical hardships after knee injuries, plus the move of cornerback Everett Coleman to safety, could signal the school's first winning season since 1964.

Another Hollas, sophomore Donald, started seven games at safety but could take over at quarterback if senior Quentis Roper doesn't return completely healthy from arthroscopic shoulder surgery. Roper could be moved to wide receiver, tailback or defensive back.

Of the nine players returning from an offense that piled up the second-highest total yardage in school history, none is more important than center Courtney Hall. Lorenzo Cyphers led the team in rushing last season but may give way to redshirt tailback Eric Henley of Los Angeles, whom Berndt likens "to the style of Texas' Eric Metcalf." ■

Miners finally look ready to pan for WAC gold

By ED ZIERALSKI
San Diego Tribune

It's virtually a given in the Western Athletic Conference that Brigham Young and Air Force will occupy two of the top three spots every year—it has happened each of the last six seasons—and this fall should be no different. But look out for Texas-El Paso.

Coming off a season in which it won more league games than ever before (five) and posted its best overall record (7-4) since 1967, UTEP will be tough. The Miners return 35 of their top 44 players from last year. If a trend continues—the one started by San Diego State in 1986 and continued last season by Wyoming—the team with the most experienced players will win it all. This year, that's UTEP.

The Miners, whose highest finish since 1974 entering last season had been next-to-last, also are riding a wave of enthusiasm in El Paso.

"It was great," Coach Bob Stull said of the '87 campaign. "We were breaking some sort of record every week."

UTEP may not win the WAC title this year, but the program is to the point where the Miners can't be overlooked. And with San Diego State and Wyoming also fielding good teams, BYU and Air Force are aware that the rest of the conference is catching up.

Utah, Colorado State and Hawaii should be better. And New Mexico, coming off a strong recruiting year, should be more competitive under second-year Coach Mike Sheppard.

BRIGHAM YOUNG

Coach: LaVell Edwards (146-49-1, 16 years).

1987 Record: 7-1/2nd; 9-3 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: John Borgia, OG; David Futrell, NG; Richard Hobbs, LB; Steve Kaufusi, DT; David Miles, WR; Brian Rodoni, C; Thor Salanoa, LB; Rod Thomas, CB; J.C. VonColln, LB; Rich Zayas, WR.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Matt Bellini, HB, 6-0/175, Soph.; Sean Covey, QB, 6-0/185, Jr. (injured knee in spring practice); Darren Handley, TE, 6-2/235, Sr.; Phil Nauahi, C, 6-3/250, Sr. (switched from G); Warren Wheat, T, 6-6/255, Sr. (switched to G in spring practice); Brian White, T, 6-5/260, Sr.; Fred Whittingham, FB, 5-10/215, Jr. **Defense (5):** Bob Davis, LB, 6-1/240, Jr.; Troy Long, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; Craig Patterson, T, 6-4/285, Jr.; Scott Peterson, S, 6-4/235, Sr.; Rodney Rice, CB, 5-7/175, Sr.

Key Returnees: Tim Clark, DT, Sr.; Chuck Cutler, SE, Sr.; Kirk Davis, CB, Sr.; Regan Hansen, LB, Sr.; John Hunter, OT, Sr.; Duane Johnson, LB, Jr.; Tim Knight, NG, Sr.; Chad Robinson, LB, Jr.; Pat Thompson, P, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Rocky Biegel, LB; Ty Detmer, QB (RS); Mohammed Elewonibi, OG (JC); Jeff Frandsen, WR, Jr.; Pete Harston, DT (transfer/Colorado); Travis McBeth, TE, Sr.; Bob Murdock, WR (JC); Matt Odle, WR, Soph.; Bud Orr, DL (JC).

Schedule: At Wyoming, Sept. 1; at Texas, Sept. 8; Texas-El Paso, Sept. 17; Utah State,

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. BRIGHAM YOUNG

The Cougars rebound from a lackluster season to regain the crown.

2. AIR FORCE

A potent offense will carry the Falcons to a bowl game.

3. SAN DIEGO STATE

Quarterback is the only position where the Aztecs are lacking.

4. TEXAS-EL PASO

Stull keeps performing miracles. The Miners are doormats no more.

5. WYOMING

The Cowboys can't reload big guns quick enough to pose a serious threat.

6. UTAH

The Utes are within reach of the leaders. If the defense improves, watch out.

7. COLORADO STATE

Will this be Fuller's final campaign? The pressure is on him to win—now.

8. HAWAII

Lacking depth and big-play performers, the Rainbows have fallen on hard times.

9. NEW MEXICO

The well-respected Sheppard can succeed here, but the Lobos are very weak.

Sept. 30; Colorado State, Oct. 8; Texas Christian, Oct. 15; at Hawaii, Oct. 22; New Mexico, Oct. 29; at San Diego State, Nov. 5; at Air Force, Nov. 12; at Utah, Nov. 19; at Miami (Fla.), Dec. 3.

BYU is anxious to get back into the WAC winners circle, but as Coach LaVell Edwards said: "It's not like we've dropped out of sight the last two years. We've been in there."

True, BYU has been to 10 consecutive bowl games, including the All-American Bowl last year and the Freedom Bowl the year before. But the Cougars haven't been to the Holiday Bowl since 1984, when they beat Michigan to win the national championship.

With junior quarterback Sean Covey calling the signals, this could be the year they return to San Diego.

"We're really kind of back to where we were there for a while at quarterback," Edwards said, referring to the days when Steve Young, Robbie Bosco and others were setting the league on fire. "We have guys coming up that are in the category of what we've had, guys who can run our kind of offense."

Covey replaced Bob Jensen as starter midway through last season and finished with 1,668 yards passing. He injured his knee in the spring but is expected to be fit in time for the season opener. Redshirt freshman Ty Detmer and sophomore Ralph Martini provide depth.

With seven returning starters and plenty of experienced reserves, the Cougars

are deep on offense.

"I think we're going to be better offensively than we've been the last couple of years," Edwards said.

The running game will be sparked by halfback Matt Bellini, who actually spends most of his time catching passes, and fullback Fred Whittingham. Covey also has an outstanding pair of targets in tight end Darren Handley, the team's leading receiver with 52 catches for 636 yards last fall, and split end Chuck Cutler.

Tackle Brian White heads a veteran of offensive line that spent much of spring practice working on short-yardage and goal-line situations, both of which were sore spots last year.

Defensively, the Cougars lost five of their front seven players. Depth will be a problem on the line, which will be bolstered by noseguard Tim Knight and tackles Craig Patterson and Tim Clark. Linebacker is an even greater concern with the loss of three regulars, but the prospective starters have significant experience.

All-WAC strong safety Troy Long is joined by cornerback Rodney Rice (six interceptions last fall) and free safety Scott Peterson to provide the base for an impressive secondary.

The Cougars have a tough schedule that includes such non-conference foes as Texas, Texas Christian and Miami (Fla.).

"I think I liked it better when we won and all those people were complaining about our light schedules," Edwards said, grinning slightly.

AIR FORCE

Coach: Fisher DeBerry (35-14, 4 years).

1987 Record: 6-2/3rd; 9-3 overall.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: Tyler Barth, WR; Rip Burgwald, LB; Mike Gantt, DB; Roy Garcia, OG; Blake Gettys, C; Chad Hennings, DT; Derick Larson, LB; Frank Martini, TE; Kreg Palko, DB; Quinton Roberts, FB; John Steed, NG.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Albert Booker, RB, 5-11/185, Sr.; Dee Dowis, QB, 5-10/160, Jr.; David Hlatky, G, 6-4/270, Sr.; Jeff Johnson, T, 6-3/245, Sr.; Jim Payne, T, 6-2/237, Sr.; Anthony Roberson, RB, 5-8/154, Sr. **Defense (5):** Randle Gladney, LB, 6-0/198, Jr.; Kevin Hughes, T, 6-3/240, Sr. (switched from LB); Gary Kilmer, CB, 5-10/168, Sr.; Mario Mathis, S, 6-0/198, Jr. Darryl Sumrall, T, 6-3/225.

Key Returnees: Pat Ahlgrimm, S, Jr.; Chris Blasy, P, Sr.; Greg Cochran, WR, Jr.; Mark Crossman, TE, Sr.; Eric Faison, CB, Soph.; Kenny Gibadlo, LB, Jr.; Greg Johnson, RB, Jr.; Tom Kafka, C, Soph. (switched from DT); Steve Letnich, QB, Soph.; Lance McDowell, QB, Soph.; Brent Merritt, OT, Soph. (switched from C/injured shoulder in spring); Steve Senn, WR, Jr.; Andy Smith, FB, Jr.; Andy Toth, CB, Jr.; Steve Yarbrough, K, Sr.

Top Newcomer: Terry Walker, LB (transfer/Missouri).

Schedule: At Colorado, Sept. 3; at San Diego State, Sept. 11; Northwestern, Sept. 17; Wyoming, Sept. 24; New Mexico, Oct. 1; Navy, Oct. 8; at Utah, Oct. 15; at Notre Dame, Oct. 22; at Army, Nov. 5; Brigham Young, Nov. 12; at UTEP, Nov. 19; at Hawaii, Nov. 26.

Like BYU, Air Force is aiming for the Holiday Bowl. Unlike BYU, the Falcons have never been there. Air Force won the league title in 1985, but the Holiday Bowl did not extend an automatic invitation to the WAC champion that year. The Cougars had represented the WAC in the seven previous Holiday Bowl games.

"We need a lot of work to contend for a championship," Coach Fisher DeBerry said. "But I think our players are excited. . . . If our off-season drills are any indication, we will be very competitive. This really can become an exciting football team."

Especially with Dee Dowis at quarterback. As a sophomore running the wishbone, Dowis rushed for 1,315 yards, an NCAA record for quarterbacks. Dowis broke his wrist in the regular-season finale last year and sat out full-contact drills in the spring, but he should be at full strength by fall.

"He's such a magician," New Mexico Coach Mike Sheppard said. "He's worth the price of admission."

Dowis will be working behind a line that returns standout guard David Hlatky and tackle Jeff Johnson. They'll be blocking for running back Anthony Roberson, the league's most potent all-purpose threat.

DeBerry wants his team to improve its passing game, which ranked next-to-last in Division I-A last fall.

"We want to become a team that has absolutely no reservations about throwing

the ball," DeBerry said.

Greg Cochran, Steve Senn and converted halfback Rob Krause head the receiving corps.

For the first time since 1984, the Falcon defense will line up without consensus All-America tackle Chad Hennings, the 1987 Outland Trophy winner.

"You don't replace him," DeBerry said. "You try to soften the blow best you can."

Spring injuries forced DeBerry to shuffle his linemen and linebackers. The situation is much brighter at linebacker, where Kenny Gibadlo and Randle Gladney will be joined by Terry Walker, a transfer from Missouri who led the Tigers in tackles as a sophomore. That allowed Kevin Hughes to switch to tackle.

Free safety Mario Mathis and cornerback Gary Kilmer are the lone returning starters in the secondary.

SAN DIEGO STATE

Coach: Denny Stolz (13-11, 2 years; 122-85-2 overall, 20 years).

1987 Record: 4-4/5th; 5-7 overall.

Offense: I-formation. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Kenny Bernard, LB; Reggie Blaylock, OG; Dave DesRochers, OT; Brett Farynlarz, DE; Harold Hicks, S; Mike Knutson, OT; Clarence Nunn, CB; Troy Reed, FB; Wayne Ross, P; Todd Santos, QB; Craig Skaggs, DT.

Starters Returning: **Offense (6):** Roman Fortin, G, 6-5/260, Jr.; Monty Gilbreath, FL, 5-9/170, Jr.; Paul Hewitt, HB, 5-10/195, Sr.; Alfred Jackson, SE, 6-1/185, Sr.; Kerry

Reed-Martin, TE, 6-3/225, Sr.; Kevin Wells, C, 6-5/260, Sr. **Defense (6):** Lyndon Earley, S, 6-1/175, Jr.; Rob Graff, E, 6-4/230, Jr.; Mario Mitchell, CB, 5-10/180, Sr.; Morey Paul, LB, 6-3/195, Soph.; John Wesselman, LB, 6-2/200, Jr.; Milt Wilson, E, 6-2/240, Jr. **Key Returnees:** Tyler Ackerson, K, Sr.; Damon Baldwin, OT, Jr. (switched from OG); Tommy Booker, RB, Soph.; Lee Brannon, LB, Sr. (switched from TE); Michael Broome, WR, Sr.; Robert Claiborne, WR, Sr.; Casey Copeland, S, Sr.; Clark Moses, CB, Soph.; Brad Platt, QB, Jr.; Patrick Rowe, WR, Soph.; Derek Santifer, LB, Sr.; Ron Slack, RB, Sr.; Nick Subis, OG, Soph. (switched from OT). **Top Newcomers:** Scott Barrick, QB (RS); Steve Blyth, NT (JC); Jim Jennings, FB (RS); Ray Rowe, TE (RS); Pio Sagapolutele, NG; Joe Santos, P (JC); Derek Sang, OT (JC).

Schedule: At UCLA, Sept. 3; Air Force, Sept. 11; at Stanford, Sept. 17; Oregon, Oct. 1; Wyoming, Oct. 8; Hawaii, Oct. 15; at Colorado State, Oct. 22; at Utah, Oct. 29; Brigham Young, Nov. 5; at Texas-El Paso, Nov. 12; at New Mexico, Nov. 19.

After watching San Diego State fall from conference champion to fourth place last fall, Coach Denny Stolz spent most of spring practice developing a new starting quarterback and installing a new 3-4 defense.

Gone is Todd Santos, who threw for more yardage (11,425) than any quarterback in Division I-A history. His likely replacement will be either junior Brad Platt or redshirt freshman Scott Barrick. Platt had a slight edge after spring drills, but "that's not in concrete," Stolz said.

The Aztecs might have the most talented group of skill players in the league. If the quarterback situation is settled, split end Alfred Jackson and flanker Monty Gilbreath will have big years. Running back Paul Hewitt, the nation's leading scorer last year (24 touchdowns), will have 245-pound fullback Jim Jennings blocking for him. Tight end Kerry Reed-Martin is a surehanded threat.

Kevin Wells, one of the nation's best centers, anchors a talented offensive line.

The Aztecs ranked near the bottom of Division I-A in defense a year ago, prompting Stolz to install a 3-4 alignment in hopes of creating "an aggressive group, a Big Ten-bloody-your-nose type defense." The spring saw a number of fights among defensive players, who collectively share a new nickname—the Black Bandits.

"Those kids took some pretty hard licks last year in games, in the newspapers, on campus, from the coaches, you name it," Stolz said. "These kids are athletes and they want to compete. That 'Black Bandit' theme has really instilled pride there. You can just see it."

Linebacker Morey Paul and cornerback Mario Mitchell are the top returning starters. Stolz is hoping that his junior college recruits from a year ago, including probable starter Steve Blythe at nose tackle, will rise to fill the holes.

"A lot of them will start," he said.

The result should be a strong team that, with a consistent quarterback, could make a run at the title.

"I'm being cautiously optimistic," Stolz said. "I'm an optimist by nature, but this year I'm a cautious optimist. We could be pretty good."

Who'll Fill Santos' Shoes?



While San Diego State quarterback Todd Santos was passing for 3,932 yards last season en route to becoming the Division I-A career leader with

11,425 passing yards, Brad Platt, Scott Barrick and Jack Skoog sat and watched. One of them is expected to replace him.

"We're looking for a player we can win with at quarterback," Coach Denny Stolz said. "We can surround our quarterback with a lot of good offensive players. He doesn't have to be a Todd Santos-type player the first year."

The leading candidate to replace Santos is Platt, a 6-foot-2, 205-pound junior who spent 1987 studying Santos as a redshirt.

"I think Platt's plus is he has played two years of junior college, plus he's been redshirted a year," Stolz said. "That has allowed him to mature. He has an incredible arm at times. He really throws the ball well. He's got the best 40 time, and he's the best athlete of the bunch."

Platt said he learned a big lesson

from Santos—how to read defenses.

"He always found somebody open," Platt said. "I watched him sit back in the pocket and have patience and wait for things to unfold."

Rated just behind Platt is Barrick, a 6-3 redshirt freshman.

"I really like his temperament and his personality for a quarterback," Stolz said.

Said Barrick: "The main thing for me now is just getting experience."

The only candidate who has thrown a pass for the Aztecs is redshirt sophomore Skoog. The 6-

5, 210-pound southpaw completed eight of 15 passes for 58 yards in mop-up duty last year, but Stolz might move him to a new position.

"Skoog has great size and athletic ability, but he doesn't have the throwing accuracy and the consistency we're looking for," Stolz said.

Waiting in the wings is Dan McGwire, a junior transfer from Iowa whose brother Mark plays for the Oakland A's. He'll be available in 1989.

—ED ZIERALSKI



Brad Platt

TEXAS-EL PASO

Coach: Bob Stull (11-12, 2 years; 21-24 overall, 4 years).

1987 Record: 5-3/4th; 7-4 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Hugo Castellanos, K; Harold Collins, SE; Blair Fowler, DT; Keith Lipscomb, NG; Barry Parker, WR; Clint Riley, OT; Dave Socie, LB; Joe Terry, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Arnie Adkison, TE/P, 6-4/238, Sr.; Steve Casper, T, 6-1/260, Jr.; Eddie Dixon, FB, 5-8/198, Sr.; John Harvey, TB, 6-0/190, Sr.; Pat Hegarty, QB, 6-1/196, Sr.; Sean Kugler, G, 6-3/277, Sr.; Robert Pufahl, G, 6-1/270, Sr.; James Spady, C, 6-1/245, Sr. **Defense (7):** Darren Lewis, CB, 5-7/165, Sr.; Doug Morgan, LB, 6-1/203, Jr.; Emilio Pittman, CB, 5-11/187, Jr.; Ross Puritty, T, 6-2/245, Jr.; Tony Tolbert, E, 6-6/230, Jr.; Terry Walker, S, 5-10/191, Sr.; Richie Wright, S, 5-10/187, Jr.

Key Returnees: Reggie Barrett, SE, Soph.; John Eldridge, LB, Jr.; Greg Evans, LB, Jr.; David Flores, QB, Sr.; Steve Griggs, NG/DT, Sr.; Ray Hill, NG, Jr.; Rob Housler, TE, Sr.; Falaniko Iakopo, DE, Soph.; Mark Mariani, WR, Jr.; Jeb Moseley, DT, Sr.; Clarence Seay, SE, Jr. (RS/academics); Mike Stubblefield, LB, Soph.; Dean Wittholz, OT, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Glenn Bishop, WR (RS); Kevin Caldwell, TB (RS); Howard Gasser, QB (JC); Chris Jacke, K (RS); Ken Sale, LB (JC).

Schedule: Mankato State, Sept. 3; Weber State, Sept. 10; at Brigham Young, Sept. 17; at Tulsa, Sept. 24; Utah, Oct. 1; at Hawaii, Oct. 8; Colorado State, Oct. 15; at New Mexico, Oct. 22; at New Mexico State, Oct. 29; at Wyoming, Nov. 5; San Diego State, Nov. 12; Air Force, Nov. 19.

Coach Bob Stull is anxious to show that the Miners' fine 1987 season was not a fluke.

"What we have to do for our program is have another winning season, back-to-back success," Stull said. "By doing that, we'll give some stability to our program."

Leading the UTEP offense will be tailback John Harvey, who rushed for 1,170 yards last fall, and quarterback Pat Hegarty.

"The key is John Harvey," Stull said. "He has been the best back in the WAC for the last two years, and he needs to have another year like he had in 1987."

Hegarty passed for 2,062 yards in '87 and had the Miners ahead of BYU by 14 points before having to leave the game with a broken jaw. UTEP wound up losing the game and a shot at the WAC title.

"He's got tremendous leadership abilities," Stull said. "And he threw the ball better in the spring than he did all last year."

Hegarty figures to have an excellent supporting cast with Harvey, fullback Eddie Dixon, whom Stull calls his "Rock of Gibraltar," new receivers Reggie Barrett and Mark Mariani and a front wall bolstered by guard Sean Kugler.

The line and linebacking could be problem spots for the Miners. End Tony Tolbert and tackle Ross Puritty return, but end Joe Terry must be replaced. And star linebacker Doug Morgan missed spring drills while battling mononucleosis. His return to health is a must if the Miners are to be sound defensively.

A strong secondary will be led by safety Terry Walker, who had four of the Miners' 13 interceptions last fall.



San Diego State might have the most talented group of skill players in the league, including halfback Paul Hewitt, whose 24 touchdowns last year led the nation in scoring.

WYOMING

Coach: Paul Roach (10-3, 1 year).

1987 Record: 8-0/1st; 10-2 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Gerald Abraham, RB; Reggie Berry, CB; Craig Burnett, QB; Scott Hanser, LB; Mike Hill, S; Bill Hoffman, TE; Keith Jackson, DE; Jeff Knapton, DT; Eric Loftus, SE; James Loving, SE; Anthony Sargent, FL; Garland Thaxton, LB; Greg Worker, K.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Steve Bena, FB, 6-1/212, Jr.; Tyrone Fittie, G, 6-5/275, Soph.; Tony Kapushion, T, 6-3/272, Jr.; Grant Salisbury, C, 6-3/248, Sr.; Steve Slay, T, 6-7/280, Jr.; Shawn Wehrer, G, 6-3/270, Jr. **Defense (5):** Dave Edeen, E, 6-3/255, Sr.; Daryl Harris, S, 6-0/175, Jr.; Steve McMillon, CB, 5-11/180, Sr.; Pat Rabold, T, 6-2/250, Sr.; Mike Schenbeck, LB, 6-2/219, Sr.

Key Returnees: Mitch Donahue, DE, Soph.; Freddie Dussett, SE, Sr. (RS/back); Bobby Fresques, QB, Soph.; Vaughn Henderson, LB, Jr.; DeWaine Jones, RB, Soph.; Tom Kilpatrick, TE/P, Sr.; Crandelle Mack, WR, Soph.; Darrell Perkins, RB, Jr.; Dave Schutt, LB, Jr.; Scott Studie, OT, Jr. (injured knee in spring); Randy Welniak, QB, Sr. (RS); Willie Wright, LB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Tom Corontzos, QB (RS); Dabby Dawson, RB (JC); Shawn Fleming, K; Ted Gilmore, WR (JC); Dan Rigby, DT (RS); Kevin Schitoskey, OT (RS).

Schedule: Brigham Young, Sept. 1; at Louisville, Sept. 10; Louisiana Tech, Sept. 17; at Air Force, Sept. 24; Fullerton State, Oct. 1; at San Diego State, Oct. 8; New Mexico, Oct. 15; Utah, Oct. 22; at Colorado State, Oct. 29; Texas-El Paso, Nov. 5; at Houston, Nov. 12; at Hawaii, Nov. 19.

Wyoming won its first outright WAC title since 1968 last fall, going undefeated in league play. But repeating that feat will be next to impossible with the loss of so much talent.

"Our experienced players will need to improve and play even better than they did a year ago if we are to maintain a quality team," Coach Paul Roach said.

The Cowboys will be strong up front both offensively and defensively, but

they'll be inexperienced at the skill positions, including the all-important quarterback spot.

"The biggest job will be finding a quarterback and replacing five wide receivers," Roach said.

Senior Randy Welniak, who sat out last season after undergoing shoulder surgery, was brought in to run the wishbone a few years back, but he'll probably be asked to run the Cowboys' complex passing game this fall. Look for Wyoming's high-flying offense to come down to earth a little this year. Fullback Steve Bena will get a lot of work, but his running mate at halfback is a mystery.

All the starters and four key backups on the Cowboys' physical offensive line return. There may not be a better left-side combination in the WAC than All-WAC tackle Tony Kapushion and guard Shawn Wehrer, with center Grant Salisbury anchoring the middle. All-WAC punter Tom Kilpatrick is back and should be the starting tight end, too.

The defensive line lost tackle Jeff Knapton, but it could be just as strong with the addition of redshirt freshman Dan Rigby. Mitch Donahue and Dave Edeen are the ends, and Pat Rabold, who was second to Knapton in sacks last year, is back at tackle.

Depth on defense could be a big problem. Mike Schenbeck leads a young but talented linebacking crew.

UTAH

Coach: Jim Fassel (15-20, 3 years).

1987 Record: 2-6/7th; 5-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Clarence Fields, DB; Bob Jenkins, DL; Jeff Jenkins, WR; Paul Knierim, OL;

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	CHUCK CUTLER, Brigham Young	6-02	180	Senior
WR	AL OWENS, New Mexico	6-01	165	Senior
TE	DARREN HANDLEY, Brigham Young	6-02	235	Senior
T	TONY KAPUSHION, Wyoming	6-03	272	Junior
T	BRIAN WHITE, Brigham Young	6-05	260	Senior
C	KEVIN WELLS, San Diego State	6-05	260	Senior
G	DAVID HLATKY, Air Force	6-04	270	Senior
G	SEAN KUGLER, Texas-El Paso	6-03	277	Senior
QB	SCOOTER MOLANDER, Colorado State	6-01	190	Senior
RB	JOHN HARVEY, Texas-El Paso	6-00	190	Senior
RB	EDDIE JOHNSON, Utah	5-08	175	Senior
RB	*ANTHONY ROBERSON, Air Force	5-08	154	Senior
RB	SCOTT WHITEHOUSE, Colorado State	6-00	199	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	MITCH DONAHUE, Wyoming	6-03	237	Soph.
DL	KEVIN HUGHES, Air Force	6-03	240	Senior
DL	PAT RABOLD, Wyoming	6-02	250	Senior
DL	TONY TOLBERT, Texas-El Paso	6-06	230	Junior
DL	MILT WILSON, San Diego State	6-02	240	Junior
LB	DOUG MORGAN, Texas-El Paso	6-01	203	Junior
LB	MOREY PAUL, San Diego State	6-03	195	Soph.
LB	STEVE RULE, Colorado State	6-04	220	Soph.
LB	MIKE SCHENBECK, Wyoming	6-02	219	Senior
DB	RON CORTELL, Colorado State	5-08	160	Senior
DB	ERIC JACOBSEN, Utah	5-11	185	Senior
DB	MARIO MITCHELL, San Diego State	5-10	180	Senior
DB	RODNEY RICE, Brigham Young	5-07	175	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	SCOTT LIEBER, Utah	6-00	166	Junior
P	PAT THOMPSON, Brigham Young	5-11	200	Senior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	MONTY GILBREATH, San Diego State	5-09	170	Junior
WR	ALFRED JACKSON, San Diego State	6-01	185	Senior
TE	ARNIE ADKISON, Texas-El Paso	6-04	238	Senior
T	AMOSA AMOSA, Hawaii	6-02	257	Senior
T	JEFF JOHNSON, Air Force	6-03	245	Senior
C	GRANT SALISBURY, Wyoming	6-03	248	Senior
G	ROBERT PUFAHL, Texas-El Paso	6-01	270	Senior
G	SHAWN WEHRER, Wyoming	6-03	270	Junior
QB	SEAN COVEY, Brigham Young	6-00	185	Junior
RB	*MATT BELLINI, Brigham Young	6-00	175	Soph.
RB	PAUL HEWITT, San Diego State	5-10	195	Senior
RB	SCOTT WHITEHOUSE, Colorado State	6-00	198	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NT	TIM KNIGHT, Brigham Young	6-04	270	Senior
DL	TIM CLARK, Brigham Young	6-05	260	Senior
DL	DAVE EDEEN, Wyoming	6-03	255	Senior
DL	RUSS PURITTY, Texas-El Paso	6-02	245	Junior
DL	JOE SEUMALO, Hawaii	6-03	245	Senior
LB	KENNY GIBADLO, Air Force	6-01	236	Junior
LB	DUANE JOHNSON, Brigham Young	6-03	210	Junior
LB	DAVE MUNDT, Colorado State	6-01	210	Junior
LB	TERRY WALKER, Air Force	6-01	209	Junior
DB	SEAN JACKSON, Colorado State	5-11	187	Senior
DB	TROY LONG, Brigham Young	6-02	200	Senior
DB	TERRY WALKER, Texas-El Paso	5-10	191	Senior
DB	RICHIE WRIGHT, Texas-El Paso	5-10	187	Junior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	CHRIS JACKIE, Texas-El Paso	5-11	175	Senior
P	ARNIE ADKISON, Texas-El Paso	6-04	238	Senior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Hlatky



Roberson



E. Johnson



Rabold



Paul



Schenbeck



Cortell



Mitchell

1987 STATISTICS

Returnees in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Dowls, Air Force.....	194	1315	10
Abraham, Wyoming.....	224	1266	12
Harvey, Texas-El Paso.....	235	1170	16
Hewitt, San Diego St.....	233	1001	18
Whitehouse, Colo. St.....	183	812	6
Fakava, Hawaii.....	163	792	16
Smith, Air Force.....	130	635	5
Roberts, Air Force.....	108	572	3
Roberson, Air Force.....	84	569	10
Bena, Wyoming.....	95	507	6

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Points
Santos, San Diego St.....	492	306	140.7
Runyan, Wyoming.....	103	51	137.1
Mitchell, Utah.....	188	109	132.5
Covey, Brigham Young.....	217	132	128.6
Molander, Colorado St.....	407	237	127.7
Mendonca, Utah.....	332	194	124.1
Hegarty, Texas-El Paso.....	273	153	123.5
Gabriel, Hawaii.....	91	47	123.4
Burnett, Wyoming.....	416	230	120.5
Jensen, BYU.....	259	144	117.0
Jones, Hawaii.....	167	84	115.3

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Mathis, New Mexico.....	73	1132	8
Hall, New Mexico.....	66	415	0
Hoffman, Wyoming.....	68	786	3
Harry, Utah.....	63	826	3
Bellini, Brigham Young.....	51	548	3
Sargent, Wyoming.....	60	823	11
Jones, Utah.....	56	584	6
Duff, New Mexico.....	51	701	6
Handley, Brigham Young.....	52	636	3
Brookhart, Colorado St.....	51	683	4
Reed-Martin, S.D. St.....	49	719	4

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Mathis, New Mexico.....	114	1861	169.2
Harvey, Texas-El Paso.....	270	1420	129.1
Gilbreath, S.D. St.....	99	1548	129.0
Abraham, Wyoming.....	244	1479	123.2
Smith, Utah.....	145	1286	116.9
Hewitt, San Diego St.....	275	1379	114.9
Roberson, Air Force.....	118	1321	110.1

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Thompson, BYU.....	71	3079	43.4
Cruse, Utah.....	59	2535	42.9
Kilpatrick, Wyoming.....	65	2792	42.9
Ross, San Diego St.....	60	2555	42.6
Albrecht, New Mexico.....	77	3217	41.8

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Gilbreath, San Diego St.....	16	205	12.8
Barth, Air Force.....	25	196	7.8
Sargent, Wyoming.....	43	337	7.8
O'Brien, Brigham Young.....	36	240	6.7
Johnson, Texas-El Paso.....	17	100	5.9

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Chitty, Brigham Young.....	26	18	1.50
Valverde, New Mexico.....	19	15	1.25
Lieber, Utah.....	15	14	1.17
Worker, Wyoming.....	24	13	1.08
Ackerson, San Diego St.....	15	11	.92

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Mathis, New Mexico.....	29	677	23.3
Roberson, Air Force.....	28	637	22.8
Lopez, Texas-El Paso.....	17	382	22.5
Smith, Utah.....	17	378	22.2

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Rice, Brigham Young.....	6	51	.67
Jacobsen, Utah.....	7	12	.58
Long, Brigham Young.....	6	37	.50
Walker, Texas-El Paso.....	4	43	.36

Tika Manu, DE; Chris Mendonca, QB; John New, OL; Sean Robertson, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Martell Black, FB, 6-2/235, Jr. (suspended in spring); Carl Harry, WR, 5-10/165, Sr.; Curt Jones, WR, 6-4/210, Sr.; Jeff Parson, C, 6-2/260, Jr.; Dennis Smith, TE, 6-2/230, Jr.; Mike Vyfinkel, OG, 6-6/245, Sr. **Defense (7):** Frank Bonifacio, LB, 6-4/220, Soph.; Garland Harris, LB, 6-1/215, Jr.; Eric Jacobsen, S, 5-11/185, Sr.; Sean Knox, CB, 5-11/180, Jr.; James McKenna, DT, 6-3/250, Jr.; Greg Smith, S, 6-2/190, Sr.; James Thompson, E, 6-2/230, Sr.

Key Returnees: Bryan Bero, FB, Sr. (RS/knee); Aaron Grimm, WR, Jr.; Molonai Hala, LB, Sr. (switched from FB); Eddie Johnson, RB, Sr. (RS/knee); Scott Lieber, K, Jr.; Scott Mitchell, QB, Soph.; Cliff Smith, RB, Soph.; Pasa Tukuafu, LB, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Randy Aldridge, DT; Brian Anderson, DT; Demetrius Carlton, LB; Wallin Fanene, DE (JC); Lance Heaton, OG (JC); Tom McNitt, DT; Bascom Mellon, DT.

Schedule: Idaho State, Sept. 10; at Illinois, Sept. 17; Hawaii, Sept. 24; at Texas-El Paso, Oct. 1; at New Mexico, Oct. 8; Air Force, Oct. 15; at Wyoming, Oct. 22; San Diego State, Oct. 29; Colorado State, Nov. 5; at Utah State, Nov. 12; Brigham Young, Nov. 19.

Utah returns 13 starters—six on offense, seven on defense. This could be the year the Utes make their move to the first division.

The schedule even works in the Utes' favor. They get Hawaii, Air Force, San Diego State, Colorado State and BYU at home.

Running back Eddie Johnson (1,046 yards rushing in '86) is expected back from the knee injury that sidelined him last year, and the return of fullback Martell Black, who left the team after the season, gives the Utes a dynamite duo in the backfield.

Sophomore quarterback Scott Mitchell will step right in and lead Coach Jim Fassel's attack. Mitchell saw considerable action last season and is one of the country's best young quarterbacks.

"Mitchell is the finest quarterback I've coached since John Elway," said Fassel, who was an assistant coach at Stanford from 1979-83.

Mitchell's main connection will be wide receiver Carl Harry (63 catches for 826 yards). The offensive line has a lot of holes.

The Utes will be strong in the defensive backfield but weak up front. The secondary includes Eric Jacobsen, the league's interception leader last year with seven.

COLORADO STATE

Coach: Leon Fuller (24-45, 6 years).

1987 Record: 1-7/8th; 1-11 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Ty Barrett, OG; J.D. Brookhart, FL; Todd Eakes, OG; Doug Fiala, OT; Clint Hjelm, DE; Pete Pavlakis, LB; Eric Schaller, DE (injured knee in spring practice, will miss season); Ron Tesone, CB; Rod Trumper, S; Todd Tyrrell, SE; Doug Willis, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): John Laurita, G, 6-2/274, Soph.; Scooter Molander, QB, 6-1/190, Sr.; Ben Morgon, G, 6-4/276, Soph. (missed spring/knee); Scott Whitehouse, HB, 6-0/199, Sr. (missed spring/ribs); Todd Yert, FB, 6-1/226, Soph. **Defense (6):** Greg Baker, NT, 6-2/252, Sr. (missed spring/back); Ron Cortell, S, 5-8/160, Sr.; Craig Jersild, CB, 5-10/175,



Utah's Scott Mitchell is one of the country's best young quarterbacks.

Soph.; Dave Mundt, LB, 6-1/210, Jr.; Steve Rule, LB, 6-4/220, Soph.; Gary Thompson, LB, 6-1/230, Jr.

Key Returnees: Mike Bartalo, FL, Sr.; Sean Jackson, S, Sr.; Brad Kofoed, LB, Sr. (injured knee in spring); Doug Lindner, OT, Soph. (switched from TE); Tim Luke, P, Soph.; Tom Rouen, P, Soph.; Mark Tyler, K, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Tony Branch, SE (JC); Dennis Erk, CB (JC); Michael Padilla, C (RS); Steve Ratzlaff, TE, Jr.; Sean Willis, FL (JC).

Schedule: Air Force, Sept. 3; Hawaii, Sept. 10; at Arizona State, Sept. 17; Colorado, Oct. 1; at Brigham Young, Oct. 8; at Texas-El Paso, Oct. 15; San Diego State, Oct. 22; Wyoming, Oct. 29; at Utah, Nov. 5; at New Mexico, Nov. 12; at Tulsa, Nov. 19.

Coach Leon Fuller has had just one winning season in his six years at Colorado State. This could be a make-or-break year for Fuller, whose young players finally began to assert themselves late in last season's 1-11 nightmare.

The Rams suffered some close losses to Utah, Hawaii, San Diego State, Southwest Louisiana, BYU and even WAC champion Wyoming. In fact, fumbles at the goal line cost the Rams a big upset of Wyoming in Laramie.

"We want to be a much more consistent team this year," Fuller said. "Last year, it seemed we were victimized by turnovers (35). The season before we were the league leaders (actually second) in forcing turnovers. We want to get back to that level."

Fuller welcomes just two senior starters back on defense, but they're good ones in nose tackle Greg Baker and safety Ron Cortell. End Eric Schaller suffered a season-ending knee injury in the spring, costing the Rams a starting defender up front. But a linebacking unit led by Steve Rule and Dave Mundt, who sat out the spring while recovering from knee surgery, should be solid.

"Defensively, this could be our best unit," Fuller said. "I just hope that we're ready to become a big-play defense."

Only five offensive starters return, but the Rams do get back quarterback Scooter Molander, who passed for 3,168 yards in his first season after transferring from a junior college.

"Scooter Molander should be among the top quarterbacks in the conference," Fuller said.

The receivers, however, will be inexperienced. Halfback Scott Whitehouse is a top-notch runner, but he will be working with a young offensive line.

HAWAII

Coach: Bob Wagner (5-7, 1 year).

1987 Record: 3-5/6th; 5-7 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 3-4.

Key Losses: Leon Austin, DB; William Bell, DB; Sam Carroll, DT; Marco Johnson, WR; Eric Lalau, LB; Ken Masterson, LB; Charlie Moetului, C; Al Noga, DT; Brian Norwood, DB; Rich Pinuski, OT; Rick Saunders, DB; Koldene Walsh, WR.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Theo Adams, T, 6-5/245, Sr. (switched to DT); Amosa Amosa, T, 6-2/257, Sr.; Heikoti Fakava, RB, 6-1/212, Sr.; Chris Gaskill, WR, 6-0/195, Sr.; Larry Jones, G, 6-4/262, Jr.; Warren Jones, QB, 6-2/195, Sr.; Dane McArthur, WR, 6-0/185, Soph. **Defense (3):** Brian Belcher, LB, 6-2/220, Sr.; Dana Directo, NG, 6-3/260, Jr.; Mark Odom, LB, 6-1/215, Soph.

Key Returnees: Augie Apelu, DT, Jr.; Walter Briggs, S, Jr. (switched from WR); Garrett Gabriel, QB, Soph.; Leo Goaes, OT, Jr.; Sean Kinilau, S, Sr.; Louis LaDay, WR, Sr.; Robert Lan, S, Sr.; Junior Lopati, RB, Sr. (status questionable/knee); Clayton Mahuka, WR, Jr.; Mark Nua, OG, Sr.; Doug Paahao, OG, Jr.; Chris Roscoe, WR, Jr.; Joe Seumalo, DT, Sr.; Peter Weidanz, LB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Michael Coulson, DB (JC); Danney Lewis, CB (RS); Richard Stevenson, RB (RS); David Tanuvasa, LB (JC).

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Bob Stull, Texas-El Paso; Denny Stolz, San Diego State.

Stull basically accomplished the impossible. The Miners' program was in a shambles when Stull arrived but now competes for the conference crown. Stolz will become a hot commodity. Stolz is a proven winner who has stabilized the Aztecs' program, but has received few accolades.

Best coaches: LaVell Edwards, Brigham Young; Fisher DeBerry, Air Force.

Winning the 1984 national championship was proof that Edwards has built one of the nation's top programs. DeBerry has the Falcons flying high.

Best programs: Brigham Young, Air Force, San Diego State.

All three teams can compete on a national basis. Brigham Young has reloaded and again should find a spot in the Top 20 a year from now. Air Force and San Diego State continue to strive for respect.

Programs on the rise: Texas-El Paso, San Diego State.

Most underrated players: Greg Baker, NT, Colorado State; Steve Bena, FB, Wyoming; Roman Fortin, OG, San Diego State; Eddie Dixon, FB, Texas-El



Underrated: Wyoming fullback Steve Bena

Paso; Dave Edeen, DE, Wyoming; Kenny Gibadlo, LB, Air Force; Daryl Harris, S, Wyoming; John Harvey, TB, Texas-El Paso; Paul Hewitt, HB, San Diego State; Kevin Hughes, DT, Air Force; Sean Jackson, S, Colorado State; Greg Johnson, RB, Air Force; Al Owens, WR, New Mexico; Morey Paul, LB, San Diego State; Jeff Parson, C, Utah; Robert Pufahl, OG, Texas-El Paso; Grant Salisbury, C, Wyoming; Dennis Smith, TE, Utah; James Spady, C, Texas-El Paso; Tony Tolbert, DE, Texas-El Paso; Brian White, OT, Brigham Young; Scott White-

house, HB, Colorado State.

Stars on the horizon: Reggie Barrett, WR, Texas-El Paso; Martell Black, FB, Utah; Tommy Booker, RB, San Diego State; Dabby Dawson, RB, Wyoming; Ty Detmer, QB, Brigham Young; Mitch Donahue, DE, Wyoming; Chris Jacke, K, Texas-El Paso; Duane Johnson, LB, Brigham Young; Lance McDowell, QB, Air Force; Bob Murdock, WR, Brigham Young; Chad Robinson, LB, Brigham Young; Patrick Rowe, WR, San Diego State; Cliff Smith, RB, Utah; Terry Walker, LB, Air Force; Sean Willis, FL, Colorado State; Milt Wilson, DT, San Diego State.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Air Force, San Diego State, Texas-El Paso; receivers—San Diego State, Brigham Young, Hawaii; offensive linemen—Wyoming, Air Force, Texas-El Paso; defensive linemen—Wyoming, Brigham Young, Texas-El Paso; linebackers—Air Force, Colorado State, Wyoming; defensive backfield—Texas-El Paso, Brigham Young, Utah.

Conference snake pits: Hawaii, Brigham Young.

The Rainbow Warriors have an avid following and are capable of knocking off anyone in Honolulu.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Schedule: Iowa, Sept. 3; at Colorado State, Sept. 10; San Jose State, Sept. 17; at Utah, Sept. 24; Texas-El Paso, Oct. 8; at San Diego State, Oct. 15; Brigham Young, Oct. 22; Long Beach State, Oct. 29; New Mexico, Nov. 5; Wyoming, Nov. 19; Air Force, Nov. 26; Oregon, Dec. 3.

Youth may be wonderful, but not for football coaches. Hawaii Coach Bob Wagner faces the same problem as Colorado State's Fuller.

"I don't know when we've ever been so inexperienced since I've been here," Wagner said. "We're young, young, young."

Just as San Diego State must live without Santos and Air Force without Hennings, Hawaii now must cope with the loss of Al Noga. Senior Joe Seumalo is the top candidate to replace the talented defensive tackle.

Noga was among eight departing defensive starters, leaving only noseguard Dana Directo and linebackers Mark Odom (11 sacks last fall) and Brian Belcher. Wagner has recruited some junior college players to fill the bigger holes. The biggest is the secondary, which will have four new faces this year. With the WAC's many pass-happy teams, the Rainbow Warriors could be in trouble.

Wagner hopes his offense can carry his team until the defense gets some experience. Seven starters return, including running back Heikoti Fakava, one of the league's premier running backs. Tackle Amosa Amosa heads a solid line.

Quarterback was an unsettled position last fall, and that remains the case. Sophomore Garrett Gabriel, junior Ken Niumatalolo and senior Warren Jones each started two games last year. All return, with Gabriel the likely starter.

"We prefer not to shuttle quarterbacks," Wagner said, "but we'll just see how the competition goes."

NEW MEXICO

Coach: Mike Sheppard (0-11, 1 year; 16-29 overall, 4 years).

1987 Record: 0-8/9th; 0-11 overall.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Kirk Allen, LB; Terence Donaldson, OG; Darren Douglas, CB; Torry Edwards, LB; Barry Garrison, QB; Shane Hall, RB; Musa Kannike, DT; Danny Lara, S; Barry Luther, OG; Scott Maney, C; Terance Mathis, WR (academically ineligible); Brian McCabe, NG; Clay Orrison, LB; Marcel Weise, S.

Starters Returning: **Offense (5):** John Duff, TE, 6-6/225, Sr.; Tony Jones, RB, 5-9/166, Sr.; Dave Mequet, T, 6-5/255, Sr.; Al Owens, WR, 6-1/165, Sr.; Sam Taylor, G, 6-0/260, Jr. (switched from T). **Defense (5):** John Bell, NG, 6-2/240, Soph.; Brett Heber, S, 5-11/180, Jr.; Randy Johnson, CB, 5-9/155, Sr.; Art Martinez, LB, 5-11/230, Sr.; Steve Webster, LB, 5-10/227, Sr.

Key Returnees: Devin Cooper, S, Jr. (RS); Guy Collura, OG, Jr.; Duffy Daugherty, QB, Soph.; Darius Harris, CB, Jr. (RS); Mike Henderson, WR, Soph.; Scott Howard, RB, Sr.; Chris Houston, LB, Sr.; Jeff MacDonald, S, Sr.; Ed Larson, QB, Jr. (RS); Jay Schultz, DT, Soph. (RS/switched from LB); Phillip Vaughan, LB, Sr. (RS); Rick Walsh, K, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Sal Cassaro, DT (JC);

Steve Daley, LB (JC); Alvin Dickey, CB; Jimmy Marshall, CB (JC); Matt McCullough, OT (JC); Willie Owens, RB (JC/RS); Steve Slater, C (RS); Andre Wooten, RB (JC).

Schedule: Fresno State, Sept. 3; at New Mexico State, Sept. 10; at Texas, Sept. 17; Akron, Sept. 24; at Air Force, Oct. 1; Utah, Oct. 8; at Wyoming, Oct. 15; Texas-El Paso, Oct. 22; at Brigham Young, Oct. 29; at Hawaii, Nov. 5; Colorado State, Nov. 12; San Diego State, Nov. 19.

Coach Mike Sheppard gets just 10 starters back from last year's 0-11 team. Though that can be a blessing in disguise, it also means New Mexico will be inexperienced again.

Sheppard, previously the coach at Long Beach State, used his West Coast ties to put together an excellent recruiting crop, signing 10 junior college players for immediate help and 19 high school seniors for his new program's foundation.

Sophomore Duffy Daugherty, the pure drop-back passer that Sheppard likes, emerged as the starting quarterback in the spring. Daugherty would like to throw to wide receiver Terance Mathis, the league's leading receiver a year ago with 73 catches for 1,132 yards, but it was doubtful that he would be academically eligible. The Lobos' offense would struggle without Mathis, although Al Owens is a big-play receiver, too.

Sophomore noseguard John Bell spearheads the defense. This unit also is thin, leaving plenty of opportunities for newcomers to contribute immediately. ■

Mountaineers are the new 'Beasts of the East'

There should be a new "Beast of the East" this fall—West Virginia.

The Mountaineers proved last season that they could compete with some of the nation's elite teams. In 1988, the veteran-laden squad is out to prove it can beat them, too.

Coach Don Nehlen enters his ninth season with cautious optimism as 17 of 22 regulars return from a 6-5 team that bowed to Oklahoma State, 35-33, in the Sun Bowl. That loss was one of five defeats by less than six points, four of which were decided by fourth-quarter turnarounds.

In their final regular-season game at Syracuse, the Mountaineers had the unbeaten Orangemen on the ropes until Syracuse rallied in the final minute to prevail, 32-31. Other late setbacks came to regional rivals Pittsburgh, Penn State and Maryland.

"We're much further ahead in the spring this year than last," Nehlen said. "We're not playing musical chairs at quarterback, and that helps. We know who our two-deep players will be."

The Mountaineers have all kinds of talent spread throughout that depth chart, particularly at quarterback, the offensive line and linebacker. As a result, they should be able to win the close games this fall instead of self-destructing in the fourth quarter.

Nehlen has guided West Virginia to five bowl games (three victories) in his first eight seasons, but never a New Year's Day bowl. This season, the Mountaineer uniforms may not be packed away until 1989.

FLORIDA STATE

Coach: Bobby Bowden (101-37-3, 12 years; 174-69-3 overall, 22 years).

1987 Record: 10-1.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Pat Carter, TE; Herb Gainer, WR; Martin Mayhew, CB; Paul McGowan, LB; Danny McManus, QB; Greg Newell, Sr.; David Palmer, LB; Mark Salva, C; Terry Warren, LB; Eric Williams, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Joey Ionta, T, 6-3/251, Sr.; Jason Kuipers, G, 6-2/268, Sr.; Ronald Lewis, FL, 6-0/170, Jr.; Sammie Smith, TB, 6-2/221, Jr.; Pat Tomberlin, T, 6-3/300, Sr.; Dayne Williams, FB, 6-1/230, Sr.; Tony Yeomans, G, 6-2/254, Jr. **Defense (6):** Steve Gabbard, T, 6-4/261, Sr.; Odell Haggins, NG, 6-2/250, Jr.; Eric Hayes, T, 6-3/270, Jr.; Deion Sanders, CB, 6-0/195, Sr.; Stan Shiver, S, 6-2/204, Sr.; Shelton Thompson, LB, 6-3/248, Jr.

Key Returnees: Richie Andrews, K, Soph.; Terry Anthony, WR, Jr.; Edgar Bennett, FB, Soph.; John Brown, OG, Jr.; LeRoy Butler, S, Jr.; Marion Butts, FB, Sr.; Dexter Carter, TB, Jr.; Keith Carter, LB, Jr.; Ed Clark, LB, Jr. (RS); Lawrence Dawsey, FL, Soph.; Dedrick Dodge, S, Jr.; Chip Ferguson, QB, Sr.; Corian Freeman, CB, Soph.; Kevin Grant, LB, Jr.; John Hadley, LB, Sr.; Hayward Haynes, OG, Soph.; Bruce LaSane, SE, Jr.; Tom O'Malley, TE, Sr.; Tracy Sanders, CB, Sr.; Peter Tom Willis, QB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Johnny Clower, TE (Prop 48); Phillip Ferrell, LB (RS); Deondri Clark,



TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. FLORIDA STATE

Success against in-state rivals remains the key to the Seminoles' season.

2. WEST VIRGINIA

Nehlen's best team ever may wind up the Beasts of the East in '88.

3. SYRACUSE

Can the Orangemen win without Don McPherson? Why not.

4. NOTRE DAME

The Irish face a transition year, but the situation keeps improving under Holtz.

5. MIAMI (FLA.)

Heavy losses lessen the Hurricanes' force, but only for one season.

6. PENN STATE

Happy Valley will remain as such if Thomas fully recovers from knee injury.

7. PITTSBURGH

The Panthers are a quarterback away from playing on January 2.

8. TULANE

The Green Wave converts a favorable schedule into another bowl game.

9. SOUTH CAROLINA

Ellis-to-Green combo is deadly, but question marks abound.

10. BOSTON COLLEGE

The Eagles earn this ranking only because of Bicknell, one of the best.

11. RUTGERS

With a few breaks, the Scarlet Knights could do some damage.

12. SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA

Underrated Stokley has his Ragin' Cajuns on the upswing.

LB; Tommy Henry, CB; Kevin Mancini, OL; Mike Morris, OG (RS); Robert Stevenson, OL (Prop 48); Oliver Strickland, OL; John Wimberly, P.

Schedule: At Miami (Fla.), Sept. 3; Southern Mississippi, Sept. 10; at Clemson, Sept. 17; Michigan State, Sept. 24; at Tulane, Oct. 1; Georgia Southern, Oct. 8; East Carolina, Oct. 15; Louisiana Tech, Oct. 22; at South Carolina, Nov. 5; Virginia Tech, Nov. 12; Florida, Nov. 26.

In 1987, Florida State went 10-1, beat Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl and was ranked No. 2 in the country. In 1988, Seminoles fans want more.

A national championship.

The Seminoles came close last year. If not for a failed two-point conversion—actually, the real mistake was blowing a 16-point lead in the final 16 minutes—against eventual national champion Miami (Fla.), the championship would have been theirs.

Florida State's chance at revenge will come early as the Seminoles and Hurricanes hook up in a blockbuster season opener September 3 at the Orange Bowl.

Florida State returns 43 lettermen and 13 starters. That's a lot of returning talent, but Coach Bobby Bowden has a legitimate

concern in replacing quarterback Danny McManus. Senior Chip Ferguson had loomed as the heir apparent, but sophomore Peter Tom Willis passed Ferguson in the spring.

"I knew if I wanted to be Number 1, I'd have to work to be not just as good as Chip, but better than him," Willis said.

Either Willis or Ferguson will work in a deep, talented backfield. Tailback Sammie Smith rushed for a school-record 1,230 yards last year. His backup, Dexter Carter, is good enough to start almost anywhere else, and fullback Dayne Williams will open plenty of holes for both of them.

"I don't think you can have a better situation than what we have," Smith said.

Flanker Ronald Lewis and wide receiver Terry Anthony make the passing game solid. But All-America tight end Pat Carter will be missed.

The line returns four of five starters, including Pat Tomberlin, who could be the best offensive tackle in the nation. Still, Bowden sees room for improvement.

"We need to improve our blocking and execute better if we are to be the best offense in the country," he said.

Like Tomberlin, nose guard Odell Haggins could be the best thing going at his position. The defensive front three is strong with Haggins and tackles Eric Hayes and Steve Gabbard. But three linebackers are gone, including Butkus Award winner Paul McGowan.

"That's the biggest gap that must be closed," Bowden said.

Nobody does it better in the secondary than consensus All-America cornerback Deion Sanders. He and safety Stan Shiver make life miserable for opposing passers.

WEST VIRGINIA

Coach: Don Nehlen (58-35-1, 8 years; 111-70-5 overall, 17 years).

1987 Record: 6-5.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: David Grant, MG; Brad Hunt, DT; Harvey Smith, WR; John Talley, WR; Terry White, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): A.B. Brown, RB, 5-10/211, Sr.; Major Harris, QB, 6-1/215, Soph.; Kevin Koken, C, 6-2/263, Sr.; Bob Kovach, G, 6-2/270, Sr.; Rick Phillips, T, 6-4/262, Sr.; Brian Smider, T, 6-4/297, Sr.; John Stroia, G, 6-3/262, Sr.; Craig Taylor, FB, 6-0/215, Sr.; Keith Winn, TE, 6-2/218, Sr. **Defense (8):** Willie Edwards, CB, 5-8/186, Sr.; Chris Haering, LB, 6-2/210, Jr.; Dale Jackson, LB, 6-2/244, Sr.; Bo Orlando, S, 5-10/173, Sr.; Chris Parker, T, 6-5/280, Sr.; Robert Pickett, LB, 6-0/210, Sr.; Darnell Warren, LB, 6-0/236, Jr.; Preston Waters, CB, 5-8/166, Jr.

Key Returnees: Charlie Baumann, K, Sr.; Grants Bell, WR, Sr.; Lance Carion, P, Sr.; Theron Ellis, LB, Soph.; Mike Fox, DT, Jr.; Undra Johnson, RB, Jr.; Eric Lester, LB, Sr.; Jack Linn, OT, Jr.; Eugene Napoleon, RB, Sr.; Calvin Phillips, WR, Sr.; Dale Wolfley, OG, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Greg Dykes, WR (JC); Alex Hooks, FB (JC); Greg Jones, QB (transfer/Miami, Fla.); Tim Karpiak, DB

(RS); Reggie Rembert, WR (JC); Rick Stead, DT (RS); Darrell Whitmore, DB (RS). **Schedule:** Bowling Green State, Sept. 3; Fullerton State, Sept. 10; Maryland, Sept. 17; at Pittsburgh, Sept. 24; at Virginia Tech, Oct. 1; at East Carolina, Oct. 8; Boston College, Oct. 22; Penn State, Oct. 29; at Cincinnati, Nov. 5; Rutgers, Nov. 12; Syracuse, Nov. 19.

A year ago, Major Harris was locked in a three-way battle for the starting quarterback job at West Virginia. Now, after a redshirt freshman season in which he dazzled opponents with his running and passing, Harris is considered one of the nation's best all-purpose quarterbacks.

"I may have held the team back some last season," Harris said, "since the team was looking to see what I could do. They know what I can do now and it should be different this season."

The only missing offensive starters are Harris' top two targets from last fall, John Talley and Harvey Smith. Some promising replacements are on hand, but if the aerial game falters, Coach Don Nehlen can turn to a veteran running back corps that includes fullback Craig Taylor and running back A.B. Brown.

The backfield's production will get a huge boost from a dominating offensive line led by tackle Rick Phillips and guard John Stroia. Tight end Keith Winn came on strong by the end of last season.

Nehlen is looking for substantial defensive improvement.

"We had trouble stopping people when we had to (last year)," he said.

The linebacking is the hub of the defense with all four starters returning plus tremendous depth. Robert Pickett missed spring drills with an injury but should be back to join Darnell Warren, Chris Haering and Dale Jackson in the Mountaineers' free-substitution alignment.

Redshirt freshman Darrell Whitmore had an impressive spring and is ticketed to replace White in a solid secondary. The line looms as the only potential trouble spot on defense.

SYRACUSE

Coach: Dick MacPherson (41-36-2, 7 years; 86-63-3 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 11-0.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Paul Frase, DT; John Garrett, C; Ted Gregory, NG; Tommy Kane, WR; Pat Kelly, TE; Don McPherson, QB; Tim Vesling, K; Derek Ward, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Blake Bednarz, G, 6-3/281, Jr.; Robert Drummond, RB, 6-2/204, Sr.; John Flannery, C, 6-3/265, Soph. (switched from G); Deval Glover, WR, 5-11/187, Sr.; Daryl Johnston, FB, 6-1/238, Sr.; Turnell Sims, T, 6-3/271, Soph.; Craig Stoeppel, T, 6-4/300, Sr. **Defense (8):** David Bavaro, LB, 6-0/224, Jr. (injured shoulder in spring practice); Rob Burnett, T, 6-3/254, Jr.; Keith Friberg, LB, 6-4/229, Sr.; David Holmes, CB, 6-1/187, Sr.; Chris Ingram, CB, 5-10/178, Sr.; Jeff Mangram, S, 5-11/179, Sr.; Markus Paul, S, 6-2/200, Sr.; Terry Wooden, LB, 6-2/225, Jr.

Key Returnees: Dan Bucey, LB, Jr.; Pat Davis, TE, Sr.; Fred DeRiggi, NG, Jr.; Cooper Gardiner, P, Sr.; Kevin J. Greene, K, Sr.; Rush Hodgins, G, Soph.; Rob Moore, WR,

Soph.; Michael Owens, RB, Jr.; Todd Philcox, QB, Sr.; Bill Scharr, QB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Mark Swinson, DT (RS/academics); Jim Wentworth, DT (RS).

Schedule: Temple, Sept. 3; at Ohio State, Sept. 10; Virginia Tech, Sept. 17; Maryland, Oct. 1; Rutgers, Oct. 8; at Penn State, Oct. 15; at East Carolina, Oct. 22; Navy, Nov. 5; at Boston College, Nov. 12; at West Virginia, Nov. 19; Pittsburgh, Dec. 3.

Two years ago, after Coach Dick MacPherson's Syracuse team stumbled to a 1-5 start, the Orange unfaithful started a "Sack Mac" campaign. Fortunately for the school's football program, Chancellor Melvin Eggers didn't listen to the disgruntled fans and alumni.

Coach Mac was back in 1987, and so were the Orangemen. Syracuse finished with an undefeated regular season, a Sugar Bowl tie and a No. 4 ranking in the polls. It was Syracuse's most successful season since its 1959 national championship campaign.

Not surprisingly, those same fickle fans who wanted to lop MacPherson's head off are now asking to shake his hand.

"That's the nature of the business," said MacPherson, the national Coach of the Year. "... I hope we've gotten this program to the point where people will want to pat my back, not stab it."

The knives may be put away for good because Syracuse has loads of talent. Whether the Orange again rules the East and returns to a major bowl depends on its ability to replace consensus All-America quarterback Don McPherson and two starters on the defensive line.

McPherson will be succeeded by either sophomore Bill Scharr or senior Todd Philcox. Scharr, a tremendous passer, probably has the edge.

The Orangemen again will feature a high-octane running attack. In Michael Owens and Robert Drummond, Syracuse has as fine a running back tandem as any team in the East, and fullback Daryl Johnston is a punishing blocker and runner.

Standout tackle Craig Stoeppel heads an offensive line that returns all but one starter, and Pat Davis is a fine tight end. The receiving corps should be strong despite the loss of Tommy Kane. Rob Moore can be just as good.

The two biggest losses defensively were consensus All-America noseguard Ted Gregory and tackle Paul Frase. But the lone returnee, tackle Rob Burnett, is a good one.

The linebacking corps, featuring Terry Wooden, should be strong again with three starters back. All four return in the secondary, where safety Markus Paul, a 1987 finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award, is tremendous.

NOTRE DAME

Coach: Lou Holtz (13-10, 2 years; 129-75-5 overall, 18 years).

1987 Record: 8-3.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Tim Brown, FL; Cedric Figaro,

Who'll Fill Brown's Shoes?

Replacing Heisman Trophy-winning flanker Tim Brown is a tough task for anybody, and sophomore Ricky Watters wanted no part of it. After all, he was a tailback, not a receiver.

For a while, he appeared to be off the hook. Fighting Irish Coach Lou Holtz switched senior tailback Mark Green to flanker for the spring, leaving Watters free to pursue Green's old job. But Holtz, considering Watters' game-breaking possibilities in the open field, suggested to Watters from time to time that perhaps he should be the tailback switching to flanker, not Green.

Watters was a hard sell. He likes playing tailback. And the idea of exposing his body to the hard-crunching whims of defensive backs while suspended in air was less than appealing.

Finally, with just three spring practice sessions remaining, Watters called Holtz at home at 10:30 one night.

"I told him I wanted to do whatever I could to help the team, to help us win," Watters said. "I had played there

for a few plays during the spring, and the idea certainly had been talked about. It'll be different, that's for sure."

Despite his lack of experience at flanker, Watters probably has his share of great days ahead. The 6-foot-3, 192-pounder has great moves that will make him difficult to cover one-on-one in the open field. Irish coaches consider his receiving ability comparable to that of Brown at the same stage, and Watters also will inherit Brown's jobs of returning punts and kickoffs.

Holtz said he plans to use several other young receivers, too, and so Brown's departure may actually work to Notre Dame's advantage.

"Last year, everybody in the stadium knew the ball was going to Tim Brown—I knew it, the fans knew it, and the opposing defenses knew it," he said.

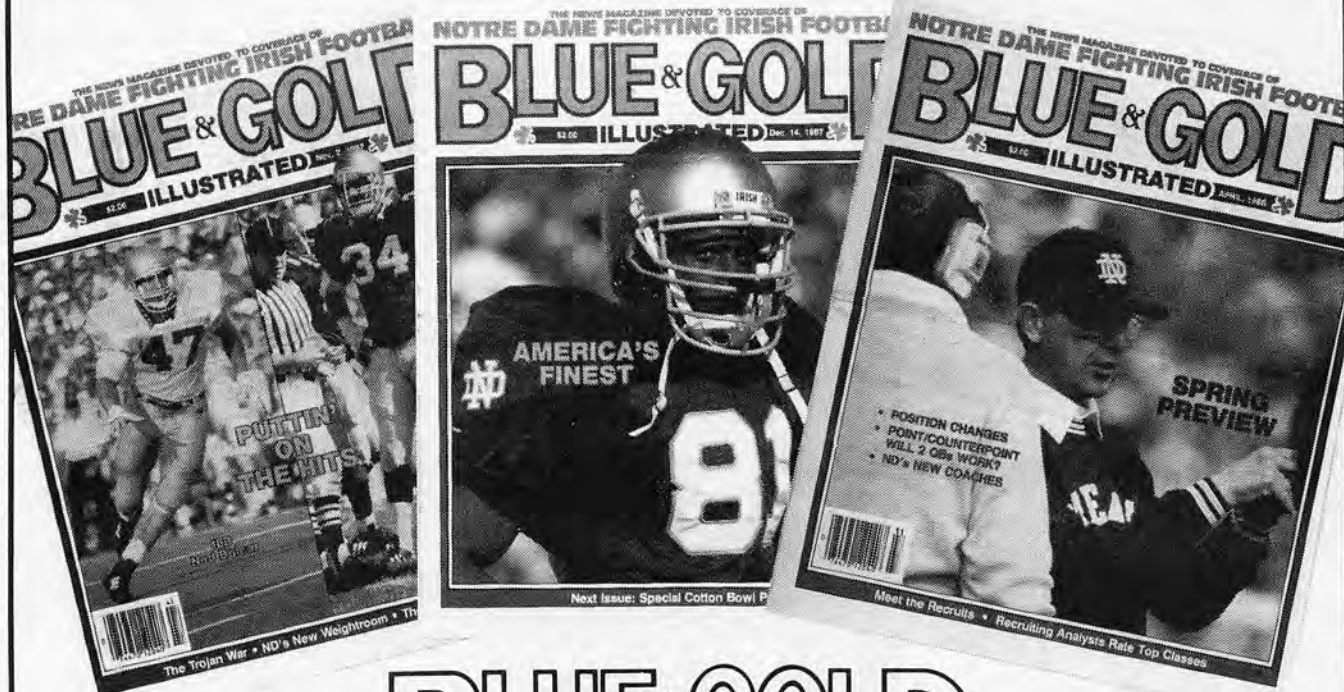
"We'll be better balanced now," he said. "When we throw the ball, it's not going to be as easy to predict where it's going."

—KAREN HEISLER



Ricky Watters





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LB; Tom Freeman, OG; Mike Griffin, NT; Jeff Kunz, DT; Chuck Lanza, C; Tom Rehder, OT; Marv Spence, CB; Byron Spruell, OT; Reggie Ward, SE; Brandy Wells, S.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Mark Green, TB/FL, 5-11/183, Sr.; Andy Heck, T, 6-6/246, Sr. (switched from TE); Anthony Johnson, FB, 6-0/219, Jr.; Jeff Pearson, G, 6-2/254, Jr.; Tony Rice, QB, 6-2/198, Jr. **Defense (6):** Ned Bolcar, LB, 6-2/234, Sr.; Flash Gordon, LB, 6-3/218, Sr.; Tom Gorman, T, 6-6/258, Jr.; Wes Pritchett, LB, 6-5/244, Sr.; Stan Smagala, CB, 5-11/179, Jr.; George Streeter, S, 6-2/208, Sr.

Key Returnees: Braxton Banks, FB, Jr.; Tony Brooks, TB, Soph.; John Foley, DT, Jr.; Kent Graham, QB, Soph.; Tim Grunhard, OG, Jr.; Frank Jacobs, TE, Soph.; Todd Lyght, CB, Soph.; Andre Jones, LB, Soph.; Michael Stonebreaker, LB, Jr. (RS/academics); Cory Southall, S, Sr.; Ricky Watters, FL/TB, Soph.; George Williams, DT, Soph.

Top Newcomer: Derek Brown, TE.

Schedule: Michigan, Sept. 10; at Michigan State, Sept. 17; Purdue, Sept. 24; Stanford, Oct. 1; at Pittsburgh, Oct. 8; Miami (Fla.), Oct. 15; Air Force, Oct. 22; Navy (at Baltimore), Oct. 29; Rice, Nov. 5; Penn State, Nov. 19; at Southern California, Nov. 26.

Notre Dame made great strides last season, going from 5-6 in '86 to the Cotton Bowl a year later, but Coach Lou Holtz isn't satisfied yet.

"My first year we felt we could win," Holtz said. "Last year we reached the point where we knew we could win. Now we must reach the point where we expect to win."

But Holtz must find the right answers to several questions if the Fighting Irish are to improve on last season's 8-3 record and return to a New Year's Day bowl.

Notre Dame obviously must fill the void left by the graduation of Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown. But Holtz is more concerned about developing a consistent offense that will feature the top six runners and seven of the top eight receivers from a year ago.

Tony Rice, who started six of the last seven regular-season games in 1987, is a quick-footed, hard-throwing, option-style quarterback, the kind Holtz favors. But he must develop more of a touch on his short- and medium-distance throws to keep the Irish from becoming one-dimensional.

Replacing Brown at flanker will be converted tailback Ricky Watters. The backfield still remains potent with the return of tailback Mark Green, Notre Dame's top rusher the last two years, and fullbacks Anthony Johnson and Braxton Banks.

To help rebuild the offensive line, which lost four starters to graduation, Holtz switched tight end Andy Heck to tackle.

Becoming a dominant defensive team is another of Holtz's priorities.

The linebacking corps, anchored by Ned Bolcar and Wes Pritchett and bolstered by the return of Michael Stonebreaker (academically ineligible in '87), boasts its share of heavy hitters. And the secondary features two standouts in safeties George Streeter and Cory Southall.

But the defensive line, where only one lineman had more than a single quarterback sack in 1987, must get quicker and meaner if the Irish are to develop an aggressive pass rush. Tackle John Foley,

who moved from linebacker late last season, could be the key.

Although the schedule is no cakewalk, the Irish will play seven home games this fall for the first time in history.

MIAMI (FLA.)

Coach: Jimmy Johnson (41-8, 4 years; 71-33-2 overall, 9 years).

1987 Record: 11-0.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Tolbert Bain, CB; Bennie Blades, S; Brian Blades, WR; Melvin Bratton, FB; Selwyn Brown, S; Charles Henry, TE; Michael Irvin, FL; Derwin Jones, DT; George Mira, LB; Matt Patchan, OT; Scott Provin, OG; Alfredo Roberts, TE; Daniel Stubbs, DE; Warren Williams, HB.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): Rod Holder, C, 6-1/260, Jr.; John O'Neill, T, 6-4/267, Sr.; Mike Sullivan, G, 6-4/274, Soph.; Steve Walsh, QB, 6-3/195, Jr. **Defense (5):** Rod Carter, LB, 6-1/231, Sr.; Bill Hawkins, E, 6-6/260, Sr.; Greg Mark, T, 6-4/238, Jr.; Bubba McDowell, S, 6-1/195, Sr. (switched from CB); Randy Shannon, LB, 6-0/224, Sr.

Key Returnees: Kenny Berry, S, Jr.; Andre Brown, SE, Sr.; Darren Bruce, OT, Sr.; Bernard Clark, LB, Jr.; Leonard Conley, HB, Soph.; Shannon Crowell, FB, Soph.; Maurice Crum, LB, Soph.; Dale Dawkins, FL, Jr.; Donald Ellis, CB, Sr.; Craig Erickson, QB, Soph.; Bobby Garcia, OG, Jr.; Cleveland Gary, FB, Sr.; Bobby Harden, S, Jr.; Randal Hill, SE, Soph.; Michael Johnson, CB, Soph.; Jimmie Jones, DT, Jr.; Willie Peguese, DE, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Shane Curry, DE (transfer/Georgia Tech); Claude Jones, OT (RS); Eric Miller, DE (RS); Leon Searcy, OT (RS).

Schedule: Florida State, Sept. 3; at Michigan, Sept. 17; Wisconsin, Sept. 24; Missouri, Oct. 1; at Notre Dame, Oct. 15; Cincinnati, Oct. 22; at East Carolina, Oct. 29; Tulsa, Nov. 5; at Louisiana State, Nov. 19; Arkansas, Nov. 26; Brigham Young, Dec. 3.

Miami (Fla.) had just completed its national championship season when Coach Jimmy Johnson shocked listeners at a morning-after news conference by declaring that his Hurricanes "might just be a better team next season."

Better than 11-0? Better than 20-14 over Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl? Better despite losing such luminaries as consensus All-America safety Bennie Blades, consensus All-America defensive end Daniel Stubbs, school career receiving leader Michael Irvin and flamboyant fullback Melvin Bratton?

That Johnson still reeled from champagne was a popular theory for this self-inflicted pressure to repeat.

"We can be more explosive on offense," Johnson said, "and we should be more dominating on defense next season."

It's next season now. And the outlook is sobering.

On offense, a good chunk of Johnson's hoped-for explosiveness left for the first round of the National Football League draft when Irvin decided to go pro early. Quarterback Steve Walsh is back, more experienced and still efficiently unspectacular, but he will be handing off to a new halfback and fullback, aiming passes at a new flanker, split end and tight end and dropping back behind two new linemen and two others trying to rebound from knee surgery that shelved both for all of spring practice.

High expectations surround halfback

Leonard Conley, fullback Cleveland Gary and split end Randal Hill, but questions at the other receiver positions and the importance of medical comebacks by center Rod Holder and tackle John O'Neill attach preseason doubts to the offense.

The defense is more encouraging.

"Our defensive front seven is the single most dominant part of our football team," Johnson said.

Bill Hawkins and Georgia Tech transfer Shane Curry are the best pair of defensive ends in the country, while intimidating Rod Carter leads an impressive linebacking corps. Trouble is, Miami's last line of defense, the secondary, is a primary concern. There will be two new starters, and maybe three, with top cornerback Donald Ellis struggling to recover from 1987 knee surgery. And Miami's only healthy returning starter, Bubba McDowell, will tread unfamiliar ground. He was switched from the corner to free safety this spring.

The Hurricanes won't have the luxury of an easy schedule. A visit by Florida State and a trip to Michigan present Miami with the real possibility of a 0-2 start.

PENN STATE

Coach: Joe Paterno (207-48-2, 22 years). **1987 Record:** 8-3.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Michael Alexander, WR; Kurt Bernier, LB; Trey Bauer, LB; Stan Clayton, OT; Pete Curkendall, DT; Marques Henderson, S; Matt Johnson, DT; Matt Knizner, QB; Rich Kuz, OG; Paul Pomfret, TE; Ray Roundtree, WR; Mark Sickler, OT; Gary Wilkerson, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Roger Duffy, C, 6-2/265, Jr.; John Greene, FB, 5-11/187, Sr.; Blair Thomas, TB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Michael Timpson, WR, 5-11/175, Sr.; Steve Wisniewski, G, 6-4/270, Sr. **Defense (5):** Brian Chizmar, S, 6-1/204, Jr.; Scott Gob, LB, 5-11/230, Jr.; Eddie Johnson, CB, 5-10/164, Sr.; Keith Karpinski, LB, 6-4/222, Sr.; Aoatua Polamalu, NT, 6-0/252, Sr.

Key Returnees: Sean Barowski, FB, Jr.; Tom Bill, QB, Soph.; Gary Brown, TB, Soph.; Andre Collins, LB, Jr. (switched from S); Tim Freeman, OT, Soph.; Sam Gash, FB, Soph.; Lance Loneragan, QB, Jr.; Quintus McDonald, LB, Sr.; Bob Mrosko, DT, Sr. (switched from TE); Andre Powell, LB, Soph.; Sherrod Rainge, S, Jr.; Rich Schonewolf, OT, Jr.; Dave Szott, NT, Jr. (switched from DT); Willie Thomas, CB, Soph.; Leroy Thompson, TB, Soph.; Odell Wilson, WR, Sr. (switched from TB).

Top Newcomers: David Daniels, WR (RS); Terry Smith, WR (RS).

Schedule: At Virginia, Sept. 10; Boston College, Sept. 17; Rutgers, Sept. 24; at Temple, Oct. 1; Cincinnati, Oct. 8; Syracuse, Oct. 15; at Alabama, Oct. 22; at West Virginia, Oct. 29; Maryland, Nov. 5; Pittsburgh, Nov. 12; at Notre Dame, Nov. 19.

Penn State's season may hinge on Blair Thomas' gimpy knee, which was reconstructed over the winter.

Doctors originally predicted it would take nine months to rehabilitate the knee, placing his 1988 season in danger. But Thomas, who rushed for 1,414 yards last fall, discarded the crutches in early spring and was way ahead of schedule.

"We need a big year from Thomas," Coach Joe Paterno said, "if we're going to have a big year as a team."

The Nittany Lions also lack a proven quarterback and received a jolt when the NCAA ruled that Ray Roundtree, last year's top receiver, could not have a fifth year of eligibility.

"I think people have to be realistic," Paterno said. "This team is going to be young. It's going to struggle. It's going to have to get some things done on sheer intensity."

And with a new quarterback. The early favorite to start is sophomore Tom Bill, although junior Lance Lonergan and red-shirt freshman Doug Sieg have a shot.

If Thomas isn't available, the Nittany Lions will rely on fullback John Greene and tailbacks Leroy Thompson and Gary Brown. The backs can expect to find a lot of running room, thanks to All-America guard Steve Wisniewski and center Roger Duffy, the stalwarts of the offensive line.

The loss of Roundtree leaves Penn State with only one experienced receiver, speedster Michael Timpson.

As usual, Penn State will be strong at linebacker, where Scott Gob and Keith Karpinski are tough. The secondary looks solid with standout cornerback Eddie Johnson and safety Brian Chizmar back, but the line is a big question mark with nose tackle Aoatua Polamalu, the only returning starter, trying to overcome knee problems.

"We've got a lot of work to do," Paterno said, "but I feel comfortable that we have a lot of talented young players to work with."

PITTSBURGH

Coach: Mike Gottfried (13-9-1, 2 years; 62-48-4 overall, 10 years).

1987 Record: 8-3.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Jon Carter, DE; Zeke Gadson, LB; Sal Genilla, QB; Craig Heyward, TB; Quintin Jones, CB; Ed Miller, C; Billy Owens, S; Gary Richard, CB; Jerry Wall, LB.

Starters Returning: **Offense (8):** Dean Caliguire, C, 6-3/265, Jr. (switched from G); Roman Matusz, G, 6-5/270, Jr.; Billy Osborn, FL, 6-0/190, Sr.; Tom Ricketts, T, 6-5/285, Sr.; Eric Seaman, TE, 6-4/245, Soph. (switched to DE); Mark Stepnoski, G, 6-3/265, Sr.; Reggie Williams, SE, 6-2/190, Jr.; Prentiss Wright, FB, 5-10/205, Soph. (switched to LB). **Defense (5):** Burt Grossman, E, 6-6/260, Jr.; Jerry Olsavsky, LB, 6-2/218, Sr.; Tony Siragusa, T, 6-5/270, Sr. (status questionable/knee); Marc Spindler, T, 6-5/270, Soph.; Troy Washington, S, 6-2/190, Sr.

Key Returnees: Jeff Christy, LB, Soph.; Dan Crossman, FB, Jr. (switched from S); Darnell Dickerson, QB, Soph. (status questionable/academics, knee); Cornell Holloway, CB, Sr.; John Rasp, P, Jr.; Louis Riddick, S, Soph. (switched from FB); Jeff VanHorne, K, Jr.; Adam Walker, TB, Jr.; Larry Wanke, QB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Richard Allen, DT (RS); Mike Boykin, LB (RS); Curtis Bray, LB; Mike Chalenksi, LB; Dave Coleman, CB; Alonzo Hampton, CB (JC); Baron Jackson, DB/WR; Todd Pipken, DE (RS); Curvin Richards, TB (RS); Tom Sims, DE (transfer/Western Michigan); Yusef Washington, QB (Prop 48).

Schedule: Northern Iowa, Sept. 3; Ohio State, Sept. 17; West Virginia, Sept. 24; at Boston College, Oct. 1; Notre Dame, Oct. 8; Temple, Oct. 15; Navy, Oct. 22; Rutgers, Nov. 5; at Penn State, Nov. 12; at North Carolina State, Nov. 19; at Syracuse, Dec. 3.



Miami quarterback Steve Walsh is one of just four offensive starters returning from last year's national champion.

Pittsburgh Coach Mike Gottfried was able to use a conservative game plan last fall with tailback Craig Heyward lugging the ball 33 times a game. But Heyward, Division I-A's second-leading rusher with 1,655 yards, was ruled ineligible by the NCAA because he had dealt with a sports agent, prompting Gottfried to become a little more daring this year.

"We'll open things up a little more without him," he said. "We'll get more people involved in the offense."

The pain of Heyward's loss could have been eased by the return of Brian Davis, the former prep star who rushed for 298 yards as a freshman in 1985 before leaving Pitt for academic reasons and then enrolling in junior college last year, but Davis experienced academic difficulties once again and was ruled ineligible.

The battle at quarterback between sophomores Darnell Dickerson and Larry Wanke could be interesting. Dickerson started four games in '87 and flashed some of his athletic ability, but off-season knee surgery that kept him out of spring drills gave Wanke an opportunity. Wanke came on in relief of the injured Dickerson and played a strong second half in Pitt's Bluebonnet Bowl loss to Texas.

"I think either of the quarterbacks can do the job," Gottfried said. "I'm confident that quarterback won't be a problem."

The Panthers don't need much help on the offensive line, which is anchored by guard Mark Stepnoski and guard-turned-center Dean Caliguire.

When Gottfried decides to air it out, he has three good receivers in Reggie Wil-

liams, Bill Osborn and Hosea Heard.

"We're going to do some different things this year," Gottfried said. "We'll make some things happen."

The Panthers may have a problem at defensive tackle if Tony Siragusa can't play because of a knee injury. A healthy Siragusa and Marc Spindler would make the defense nearly impregnable up the middle.

Other standout returnees from one of the nation's stingiest defenses (fourth in Division I-A) are linebacker Jerry Olsavsky, end Burt Grossman and free safety Troy Washington. Sophomore Louis Riddick, who moved to fullback last season, will return to the secondary.

TULANE

Coach: Greg Davis (first year at Tulane).

1987 Record: 6-5.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Marvin Allen, TB; Chuck Beck, C; Karl Chambers, DT; Fred Davis, DE; Andre Lockley, OT; James McKinley, CB; Troy Wetzel, LB; Marc Zeno, WR.

Starters Returning: **Offense (7):** Melvin Adams, FB, 6-0/221, Sr.; Jim Bishop, T, 6-4/275, Sr.; Chuck Gorman, TE, 6-3/242, Jr.; Terrence Jones, QB, 6-1/207, Sr.; Kent Latimore, G, 6-3/261, Sr.; Maurice Nelson, FL, 5-9/165, Sr.; John Ripoli, G, 6-2/271, Sr. **Defense (7):** Leroy Brown, T, 6-2/246, Soph.; Thurston Harrison, CB, 5-10/179, Sr.; Richard Harvey, LB, 6-2/227, Sr.; Lonnie Marts, E, 6-1/216, Jr.; Mitchell Price, S, 5-9/181, Jr.; Richard Sauter, T, 6-1/245, Jr.; Tookie Spann, S, 6-1/205, Sr.

Key Returnees: Darron Davis, DE, Soph.; Brad Guldry, LB, Jr.; Rodney Hunter, FB, Sr.;

Continued

Jerome McIntosh, WR, Soph.; Vincent Mulmore, LB, Jr.; Michael Pierce, RB, Jr.; Mike Riley, DB, Soph.; Jay Rink, NG, Soph.; Darin Shoulders, OT, Soph.; Deron Smith, P, Jr.; Pat Stant, LB, Soph.; James Toney, FL, Jr.; Andrew Treadway, DT, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Corey Dowden, DB (Prop 48); Melvin Ferdinand, WR; Shawn Melancon, DT; Fred Plunkett, OL (JC).

Schedule: UT-Chattanooga, Sept. 3; at Iowa State, Sept. 10; Kansas State, Sept. 17; Memphis State, Sept. 24; Florida State, Oct. 1; Southern Mississippi, Oct. 8; Louisville, Oct. 22; Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 29; at Mississippi, Nov. 5; Mississippi State, Nov. 19; at Louisiana State, Nov. 26.

Is there life in Tulane football after Marc Zeno and Mack Brown? There should be.

The NCAA's career receiving yardage leader and the Green Wave's offensive-minded coach have left for the NFL and North Carolina, respectively, but Tulane returns plenty of offensive clout and has a new coach who knows something about moving the football.

Greg Davis has been an offensive coach his entire career, the last three at Tulane, where he has been involved with an attack that has piled up yards and points with option running and plenty of throwing. Don't expect wholesale changes on offense.

A good reason is senior quarterback Terrence Jones, who passed for 2,551 yards and 20 touchdowns and ran for 383 yards last year.

Jones will miss Zeno, but not as much as some might think. Wide receiver

Jerome McIntosh, who started the season at quarterback, showed acrobatic pass-catching ability late last season. Also back are flankers Maurice Nelson and James Toney. The ground game will be led by fullbacks Melvin Adams and Rodney Hunter.

Tulane's 1987 defense gave up 352 points, just six fewer than the offense scored. Seven starters return, including linebacker Richard Harvey (109 tackles), from a squad that should be deeper than a year ago. The defense will be young up front but experienced everywhere else.

A plus is the schedule: Tulane plays eight games in the Superdome, where it lost just once last season, and faces only four Division I-A opponents that had winning records in 1987.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Coach: Joe Morrison (31-24-2, 5 years; 93-68-7 overall 15 years).

1987 Record: 8-3.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Ryan Bethea, WR; Shed Diggs, DE; Brad Edwards, S; Norman Floyd, CB; Roy Hart, NG; Brendan McCormack, DT; Woody Myers, C; Greg Philpot, S; David Poinsett, OT; Sterling Sharpe, WB; Danny Smith, WR; Kevin White, WB.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Todd Ellis, QB, 6-3/203, Jr.; Mark Fryer, T, 6-4/265, Jr.; Charlie Gowan, G, 6-4/265, Sr.; Harold Green, RB, 6-2/212, Jr.; Paul Shivers, G, 6-3/260, Sr. **Defense (5):** Patrick Hinton, DE/LB, 6-2/218, Soph.; Matt McKernan, LB, 6-2/230, Sr.; Robert Robinson, CB, 5-

11/185, Sr.; Kurt Wilson, T, 6-2/263, Jr.; Scott Windsor, E, 6-1/222, Jr.

Key Returnees: Mike Armstrong, OT/OG, Soph. (RS/knee); Keith Bing, RB, Sr.; Hardin Brown, WR, Sr.; Derrick Frazier, DT, Sr.; Robert Gibson, LB, Soph.; Ike Harris, OT, Soph.; Randy Harwell, C, Sr.; Kevin Hendrix, DE, Sr.; Derrick Little, DE/LB, Sr. (status questionable/personal); Collin Mackie, K, Soph.; Vic McConnell, WR, Jr.; Ron Rabune, S, Sr.; Rodney Price, P, Jr.; Calvin Stephens, OG, Soph.; Mike Tolbert, DE, Soph.; Pat Turner, QB, Jr. (RS); Greg Welch, RB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Dale Campbell, DB (JC); Mike Dingle, RB (Prop 48); Leon Harris, DB; Albert Haynes, RB; Corey Miller, LB (Prop 48); Eddie Miller, WR (RS); Stacy Robinson, WR; Charles Steward, TE; David Taylor, LB (JC); Gerald Williams, RB (JC).

Schedule: North Carolina, Sept. 3; Western Carolina, Sept. 10; East Carolina, Sept. 17; Georgia, Sept. 24; Appalachian State, Oct. 1; at Virginia Tech, Oct. 8; at Georgia Tech, Oct. 15; at North Carolina State, Oct. 29; Florida State, Nov. 5; Navy, Nov. 12; at Clemson, Nov. 19.

No one can accuse South Carolina Coach Joe Morrison of being set in his ways. The Gamecocks finished 8-3 in 1987—with the losses to Georgia, Nebraska and Miami (Fla.), plus another to Louisiana State in the Gator Bowl—and Morrison changed his offense. Gone is the run-and-shoot in favor of a multiple offense.

"We have a fine running back in Harold Green and we wanted to utilize him more," Morrison said. "Secondly, we wanted to take some of the pressure off Todd (Ellis). This will make us more balanced."

Green underwent arthroscopic knee surgery during the spring but was expected to be at full speed by the fall. He rushed for 950 yards last year.

Ellis, one of the country's best quarterbacks, has passed for 5,922 yards in his first two seasons.

"But when we took the field, you knew we were going to throw," Morrison said, partly explaining how Ellis has thrown 42 career interceptions.

The change to a multiple offense coincides with the departure of All-America wingback Sterling Sharpe. The aerial game was dealt another blow when Ryan Bethea, the Gamecocks' top returning receiver, was arrested and charged with cocaine possession in February and was placed on indefinite suspension. No conditions have been set for his return, although he almost certainly would have to be cleared of charges.

"I don't know," Morrison said. "That remains to be seen. I think the Bethea thing was a big surprise and shock to all of us."

Although the Gamecocks' flashy offense drew most of the attention, an aggressive defense was equally responsible for the team's success. Six starters from that unit are gone.

Cornerback Robert Robinson is a stand-out in an otherwise weak secondary. The front seven looks better, with linebacker Matt McKernan and a posse of talented linemen ready to do some damage.

The placekicking is in good shape with Collin Mackie, who led the nation in field goals with 23 as a freshman last fall.

Continued

Who'll Fill McPherson's Shoes?



As Syracuse quarterback Don McPherson, the 1987 Heisman Trophy runner-up and Maxwell Award winner, was leading the Orangemen to an undefeated season, he predicted that all his records eventually would be broken by the guy listed two spots behind him on the depth chart.

McPherson was referring to sophomore Bill Scharr.

"It was nice for Donnie to say those things, but words don't win football games," said Scharr, who has been called the best pure passer ever to attend Syracuse. "I've still got to get it done on the field. If I can be half as successful as Donnie was, I'll consider myself fortunate."

The only mark against Scharr heading into this season is inexperience. He threw only seven passes last fall as a redshirt freshman but is considered a strong candidate to beat out senior Todd Philcox.

"He's been Mr. Win in everything he's done—football, lacrosse, basketball," Coach Dick MacPherson said.



Bill Scharr

Though MacPherson said he won't change the Syracuse offense, which emphasized an option attack that McPherson ran beautifully, don't be surprised to see MacPherson relying more on Scharr's drop-back passing talents. Scharr threw 73 touchdown passes in high school, a New York state record.

As for filling McPherson's shoes, Scharr said he learned a valuable lesson from the guy who succeeded him as high school quarterback.

"When I left, everyone said there would be a lot of pressure on the next guy, who happened to be a close friend," Scharr said. "But at the first day of practice, he stood up and told the team the Bill Scharr era was over. Now, it was his football team. And he ended up being successful. I have to take that same kind of attitude into this season. Don McPherson was a great quarterback, the best in Syracuse history. But I'm out to make a name for myself. And I'd like to start now."

—TOM LEO

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BOSTON COLLEGE

Coach: Jack Bicknell (50-31-1, 7 years; 68-66-2 overall, 11 years).

1987 Record: 5-6.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Peter Caspariello, TE; Darren Flutie, FL; John Galvin, LB; Vincent Munn, CB; Dave Nugent, NG; Jeff Oliver, OT; Bill Romanowski, LB; Bill Thompson, DE; Jim Turner, FB; David Widell, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Jim Bell, TB, 6-1/202, Sr.; Mike Power, QB, 6-2/182, Jr.; Brian Schoenle, C, 6-3/270, Jr.; Tom Waddle, SE, 6-0/178, Sr.; Doug Widell, T, 6-4/286, Sr. **Defense (6):** Ed Duran, S, 5-10/179, Sr.; Peter Gray, T, 6-3/244, Jr.; Rico Labbe, S, 6-0/203, Sr.; Mark Murphy, T, 6-5/265, Sr.; Kevin Pearson, E, 6-3/220, Soph.; Steve Williams, CB, 6-1/180, Sr.

Key Returnees: Mark Anken, OT, Jr.; Jon Bronner, FB, Sr.; Mike Bumpus, OT, Jr.; Ivan Caesar, DE, Sr. (switched from TE); Marcus Cherry, FL, Sr.; Tim Frager, TB, Soph.; Chris Gildea, NG, Sr.; Tracy Giles, TB, Jr.; Matt Kelley, LB, Sr.; Eric Lindstrom, DE, Sr. (RS/knee); Brian Lowe, K, Jr.; David Rooney, P, Sr.; Mike Sanders, TB, Soph.; Mike Saylor, LB, Sr.; Joe Wolf, OG, Sr. (RS/knee).

Top Newcomers: Mark Chmura, TE (RS); Jim Delnes, WR (JC).

Schedule: Southern California, Sept. 1; Cincinnati, Sept. 10; at Penn State, Sept. 17; at Texas Christian, Sept. 24; Pittsburgh, Oct. 1; Rutgers, Oct. 15; at West Virginia, Oct. 22; at Tennessee, Nov. 5; Syracuse, Nov. 12; Army (in Ireland), Nov. 19; at Temple, Nov. 26.

Boston College Coach Jack Bicknell has emphasized a pass-first, run-second philosophy since the late '60s, when he was the Eagles' backfield coach. But the 1988 offense will focus on three tailbacks Bicknell "wouldn't trade for any group in the country" and a crew of solid fullbacks.

Jim Bell rushed for 1,015 yards in nine games last fall. He and fellow tailbacks Tim Frager and Mike Sanders and fullback Jon Bronner give the Eagles a strong running attack.

"We're perceived as a throwing team," Bicknell said. "But the run has always been very important to us. We run 60 percent and throw 40 percent of the time."

That ratio was affected last year by offensive line injuries and quarterback Mike Power's inclination to run from trouble (and get sacked) instead of throwing incompletions. That could change this fall with Power's expected maturation and a starting line powered by guard Joe Wolf and tackle Doug Widell.

Even with the protection breakdowns, Power passed for 2,071 yards. Many of his completions were to split end Tom Waddle, who might have the best hands in the nation. The other receivers are unproven but generally faster than previous Eagles.

The Eagles suffered many casualties last season, none more damaging than the knee injury that kept defensive end Eric Lindstrom out all year. But Lindstrom, probably the team's top pro prospect, has returned bigger and better than before.

Defensive tackle Mark Murphy has big-time size and ability, but the interior of the line could be the team's greatest weakness. The linebacking also figures to struggle after the loss of Bill Romanowski. On the plus side, Bicknell called his defensive backfield "the best it's ever been."

RUTGERS

Coach: Dick Anderson (20-21-2, 4 years).

1987 Record: 6-5.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Jean Austin, CB; Bruce Campbell, TE; Brian Cobb, FL; Chris Evans, LB; Paul Garea, LB (injured in car accident); Alec Hoke, DE; Bob Speidel, LB (injured in car accident); Curtis Stephens, FB; Doug Strickland, OG; Sean Washington, CB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Bill Dubiel, G, 6-1/240, Sr.; Scott Erney, QB, 6-1/200, Jr.; Henry Henderson, TB, 5-7/165, Jr.; Tyler McQueen, WR, 5-8/163, Sr.; Bill Milano, T, 6-5/277, Jr.; Steve Tardy, T, 6-5/270, Jr.; Nick Urda, G, 6-1/253, Jr. (switched from C). **Defense (5):** Derek Baker, S, 5-11/205, Sr.; Darrin Czelczek, S, 5-11/180, Jr.; Carter Giles, NT, 6-1/250, Sr.; Scott Miller, T, 6-4/268, Jr.; Chuck Paugh, T, 6-2/250, Jr.

Key Returnees: Ron Allen, CB, Soph. (RS); George Bankos, DT, Sr.; Mike Botti, TB, Jr.; Ron Bugg, CB, Soph. (RS); Mike Conlan, LB, Soph.; Jeff Erickson, C, Jr.; James Jenkins, TE, Soph.; Doug Kokoskie, DT, Sr. (RS/knee); John Kutz, OG, Sr.; Eric Lester, DE, Jr.; Vaughn McKoy, S, Jr.; Pat Udovich, LB, Jr.; Eric Young, SE, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Mike Bouchard, LB (JC); Mike Pergolizzi, LB (transfer/Syracuse).

Schedule: At Michigan State, Sept. 10; Vanderbilt, Sept. 17; at Penn State, Sept. 24; Cincinnati, Oct. 1; at Syracuse, Oct. 8; at Boston College, Oct. 15; Army, Oct. 22; Temple, Oct. 29; at Pittsburgh, Nov. 5; West Virginia, Nov. 12; Colgate, Nov. 19.

The Rutgers defense, which surrendered 414.9 yards per game last fall, was already a question mark when tragedy struck last spring. Two of the Scarlet Knights' top two defenders, linebackers Bob Speidel and Paul Garea, were



Despite protection problems, Boston College quarterback Mike Power still passed for 2,071 yards last season.

seriously injured in a car accident two days after the spring game. A third player, reserve offensive tackle Bob Lowther, was killed. Speidel and Garea may never play football again, and certainly not this fall.

The loss of Speidel and Garea leaves Coach Dick Anderson with just five returning defensive starters. The line should be improved if it can avoid the injury bug, but the only solid spot is the secondary, which boasts a pair of good ones in safeties Derek Baker and Darrin Czelczek.

"Baker is as good as you'll find," Anderson said. "He's our quarterback on defense."

The offense will be led by quarterback Scott Erney, who "makes good decisions," Anderson said.

Erney will spend much of his time getting the ball to 5-foot-7 tailback Henry Henderson and split end Eric Young.

"Henderson has good acceleration and people can't see him," Anderson said. "We try to hide him and let him find the cracks."

SW LOUISIANA

Coach: Nelson Stokley (12-10, 2 years).

1987 Record: 6-5.

Offense: Run and Shoot. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Tommy Bourque, LB; Ken Branch, OG; Jim Brenner, LB; Patrick Broussard, K; Tim Calcagno, OT; John Carter, WR; Dennis Frederick, OG; R.C. Mullin, OT; Cardell Randle, C; Buddy Still, P.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Murray Atkins, WR, 6-0/180, Sr.; P.D. Broussard, RB, 5-8/182, Soph.; Willie Culpepper, WR, 5-10/160, Sr.; Steve McKinney, FB, 5-10/203, Sr.; Brian Mitchell, QB, 5-10/195, Jr.; Joe Redding, WB, 5-4/175, Sr. **Defense (9):** Chris Gannon, E, 6-5/250, Sr.; Dexter Gatewood, E, 6-1/229, Jr.; Randy Guidry, LB, 6-0/221, Sr.; Mark Hall, T, 6-5/285, Sr.; Theron Harrison, LB, 5-11/234, Sr.; Robert Johnson, NG, 6-1/253, Sr.; Thomas King, S, 6-1/190, Sr.; Patrick Taylor, CB, 5-11/210, Sr.; Dwight Willis, CB, 5-10/188, Sr.

Key Returnees: Melvin Barber, TE, Sr.; Mike Book, DE, Soph.; Pat Decuir, DE, Soph.; James Dunham, OG, Jr. (RS/medical); Greg Eagles, LB, Sr.; Terrance Harrison, RB, Jr.; Jim Hollingsworth, LB, Sr.; Derick Johnson, WR, Sr.; Mike Lemoine, K, Soph.; Leslie Luquette, P, Sr.; Quent McCollum, WR, Soph. (RS/medical); Todd Scott, CB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Louis Age, OT; Keith Zimmerman, OT (JC).

Schedule: Fullerton State, Sept. 3; at Oklahoma State, Sept. 10; Rice, Sept. 17; at East Carolina, Oct. 1; at Louisiana Tech, Oct. 8; Northern Illinois, Oct. 15; Southern Mississippi, Oct. 22; at Tulane, Oct. 29; at Memphis State, Nov. 5; at Alabama, Nov. 12; Arkansas State, Nov. 19.

For Southwestern Louisiana Coach Nelson Stokley, finishing 6-5 in his second season was even better than going 6-5 in his first.

"To do it two years in a row makes it easier to sell USL to others," Stokley said. "We had a tremendously tough schedule in 1987—every team was better than in 1986—and since we won four of our last five, we feel good about ourselves."

If the Ragin' Cajuns are to continue to feel good, a veteran defense will have to hold the fort while Stokley molds a capable offensive line to lead the way for his run-and-shoot option attack.

The defense will be tough up front, where end Chris Gannon and tackle Mark Hall are among the nation's best at their jobs. Virtually all of the linebackers return, while hard-hitting safety Thomas King leads a talented but thin secondary.

The Cajun offense was sparked last year by the emergence of quarterback Brian Mitchell, who led the team in rushing (767 yards) and passing (1,100 yards).

"In the last three or four games, I don't think anybody in the country could equal his stats," Stokley said.

The top pass-catching threat is wide receiver Willie Culpepper, while fullback Steve McKinney will help the running game. They should be effective if Stokley can rebuild the offensive line.

"The offensive line is a big question mark," Stokley said. "We have a lot of depth, but we don't know about quality."

MEMPHIS STATE

Coach: Charlie Bailey (6-15-1, 2 years).
1987 Record: 5-5-1.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Tim Borcky, OT; Brad Christensen, OT; Scott Dill, OG; Ted Gatewood, C; Troy Myers, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Reid Bennett, G, 6-3/250, Sr.; Ray Craft, FL, 5-11/175, Jr.; Tim Jones, QB, 6-0/175, Jr.; Rob Phenicie, TE, 6-4/235, Sr.; Wayne Pryor, FB, 5-10/210, Jr.; Gerald White, TB, 5-10/190, Jr.; Charles Willson, WR, 5-10/175, Jr. **Defense (10):** Marlon Brown, E, 6-4/222, Sr.; Randall Cooper, CB, 6-2/200, Sr. (missed spring practice/academics); Reggie Dubose, S, 6-1/182, Sr.; Tory Epps, NG, 6-1/240, Jr.; Adrian Harrod, DT, 6-2/245, Jr.; Clarence Haver, LB, 6-5/225, Sr.; Eddie Moore, S, 6-0/185, Jr.; Mike Nettles, CB, 5-11/185, Sr.; Greg Ross, T, 6-3/260, Sr.; Damon Young, LB, 6-1/215, Sr.

Key Returnees: John Butler, K, Jr.; Jeff Fite, P, Soph.; Rick Fredette, NG, Soph.; Rodney Lewis, DT, Jr.; Darrell Nicholson, OT, Sr.; Elgin Perkins, TB, Jr.; Keith Shirley, OT, Sr.; James White, TB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Bobby Avery, LB; Heath Bookout, L; Gary Bouldin, QB; Marvin Cox, TB (RS); Xavier Crawford, TB; Heath Gurley, OT (RS); Shawn Jackson, L (Prop 48); Keith Klockenga, OT (RS); James Maclin, NG; Clark Stevenson, C (RS); John Stoddard, OT (RS); Troy Thompson, LB (JC); Pete Trinidad, OG (RS).

Schedule: At Mississippi, Sept. 3; Arkansas State, Sept. 10; at Louisville, Sept. 17; at Tulane, Sept. 24; Mississippi State, Oct. 1; at Florida, Oct. 8; Tennessee, Oct. 22; at Southern Mississippi, Oct. 29; Southwestern Louisiana, Nov. 5; Tulsa, Nov. 12; Vanderbilt, Nov. 19.

Memphis State was one of the nation's most-improved teams last year under Coach Charlie Bailey, going from 1-10 in 1986 to 5-5-1, including a 13-10 victory over Alabama. Enthusiasm is up in Memphis and Bailey's contract has been extended.

All but one starter returns from a defense that ranked eighth in the nation against the pass. Cornerback Mike Nettles, end Marlon Brown and inside linebacker Damon Young are the standouts in that group. Brown had 21 tackles for loss and 11 sacks last season.

The big question mark on offense is the line, where only one starter returns. Leading an experienced backfield is quarterback Tim Jones, who will be throwing the ball to wide receiver Charles Willson.



All but one starter returns from a Memphis State defense that ranked eighth in the nation against the pass in 1987.

EAST CAROLINA

Coach: Art Baker (9-24, 3 years; 66-72-5 overall, 13 years).

1987 Record: 5-6.

Offense: Run and Shoot. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Ellis Dillahunt, S; Willie Powell, DE; Medrick Rainbow, NG; Anthony Simpson, FB; Vinson Smith, LB; Bubba Waters, LB; John Williamson, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (10): Kyle Con-drey, C, 6-1/250, Sr.; Todd Drugac, T, 6-3/284, Jr.; Don Gaylor, WR, 6-1/195, Sr.; Travis Hunter, QB, 5-11/194, Jr.; Willie Lewis, TB, 5-8/180, Jr.; Grant Lowe, T, 6-5/284, Jr.; Billy Michel, G, 6-4/277, Sr.; Jarrod Moody, FL, 5-11/235, Sr.; Stewart Southall, G, 6-1/263, Jr.; Walter Wilson, WR, 6-0/180, Jr. **Defense (5):** Mike Applewhite, T, 6-3/285, Jr.; Ed Brodgen, CB, 5-9/175, Soph.; Carl Carney, T, 6-2/260, Jr.; Bryan Haywood, S, 5-10/187, Sr.; Junior Robinson, CB, 5-11/185, Jr.

Key Returnees: Robb Imperato, K, Soph.; Tim James, FB, Sr.; Anthony Thompson, LB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Sam Beverly, DB (Prop 48); Charles Freeman, TE (JC); Robert Jones, LB; Dale Pope, DE (Prop 48).

Schedule: Tennessee Tech, Sept. 3; at Virginia Tech, Sept. 10; at South Carolina, Sept. 17; Southern Mississippi, Sept. 24; Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 1; West Virginia, Oct. 8; at Florida State, Oct. 15; Syracuse, Oct. 22; Miami (Fla.), Oct. 29; at Temple, Nov. 5; at Cincinnati, Nov. 19.

Coach Art Baker enters his fourth season at East Carolina with his best offensive unit. Ten offensive starters return from last year's 5-6 club, which won more games than Baker's two previous Pirate teams combined.

Travis Hunter is back at quarterback,

where he passed for 1,107 yards and rushed for 371 in the Pirates' run-and-shoot offense. Tim James appears ready to come into his own at fullback, and Baker said last spring that the offensive line "is light-years ahead of where we were at this time last season."

The problems are on defense, where the Pirates must replace six starters, and on the schedule, which includes a grueling October stretch against West Virginia, Florida State, Syracuse and Miami (Fla.). Baker will be looking for warm bodies to stock the Pirates' new eight-man front.

SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Coach: Curley Hallman (first year at Southern Mississippi).

1987 Record: 6-5.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: John Baylor, DB; Sidney Coleman, LB; Darryl Colona, OT; Jim Ferrell, C; Pat Ferrell, OT; Tim Hallman, OG; Onesimus Henry, LB; Chris Magee, WR; Eric Redd, DE; Jonathan Robertson, DB; Jay Sarron, OG; Ulysses Slaughter, DT; Darrell Williams, DB.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Brett Favre, QB, 6-2/205, Soph.; Shelton Gandy, TB, 5-9/188, Sr.; Preston Hansford, TE, 6-5/241, Jr.; Darryl Tillman, WR, 6-0/179, Jr.; Reginald Warnsley, FB, 5-10/212, Jr. **Defense (4):** Steve Brown, E, 6-1/199, Sr.; Steve Rankin, T, 6-2/295, Sr.; Vincent Rollins, DB, 6-0/195, Sr.; Toby Watts, T, 6-5/242, Jr.

Key Returnees: Ricky Bradley, TB, Jr.; Eddie Ray Jackson, FB, Soph.; Carl Jones, RB, Sr. (RS); Buddy King, OT, Jr.; Maurice Oliver, DE, Sr.; Carlos Powell, TE, Sr. (RS); Ben

Continued

PRESEASON ALL-INDEPENDENT TEAM

FIRST TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	RONALD LEWIS, Florida State	6-00	170	Junior
WR	TOM WADDLE, Boston College	6-00	178	Senior
TE	KEITH WINN, West Virginia	6-02	218	Senior
T	RICK PHILLIPS, West Virginia	6-04	262	Senior
T	PAT TOMBERLIN, Florida State	6-03	300	Senior
C	KEVIN KOKEN, West Virginia	6-02	263	Senior
G	MARK STEPANOSKI, Pittsburgh	6-03	265	Senior
G	STEVE WISNIEWSKI, Penn State	6-04	270	Senior
QB	TERRENCE JONES, Tulane	6-01	207	Senior
RB	HAROLD GREEN, South Carolina	6-02	212	Junior
RB	*MARK GREEN, Notre Dame	5-11	183	Senior
RB	SAMMIE SMITH, Florida State	6-02	221	Junior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
NT	ODELL HAGGINS, Florida State	6-02	250	Junior
DL	ROB BURNETT, Syracuse	6-03	254	Junior
DL	CHRIS GANNON, Southwestern La.	6-05	250	Senior
DL	MARK HALL, Southwestern La.	6-05	285	Senior
DL	BILL HAWKINS, Miami (Fla.)	6-06	260	Senior
LB	NED BOLCAR, Notre Dame	6-02	234	Senior
LB	ROD CARTER, Miami (Fla.)	6-01	231	Senior
LB	CHRIS HAERING, West Virginia	6-02	210	Junior
LB	TERRY WOODEN, Syracuse	6-02	225	Junior
DB	EDDIE JOHNSON, Penn State	5-10	164	Senior
DB	BUBBA McDOWELL, Miami (Fla.)	6-01	195	Senior
DB	MARKUS PAUL, Syracuse	6-02	200	Senior
DB	DEION SANDERS, Florida State	6-00	195	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	CHRIS KINZER, Virginia Tech	6-00	220	Senior
P	RODNEY PRICE, South Carolina	6-01	218	Junior

SECOND TEAM

OFFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
WR	*DARRYL TILLMAN, Southern Mississippi	6-00	179	Junior
WR	MICHAEL TIMPSON, Penn State	5-11	175	Senior
WR	REGGIE WILLIAMS, Pittsburgh	6-02	190	Junior
TE	KEITH WINN, West Virginia	6-02	218	Senior
T	CRAIG STOEPEL, Syracuse	6-04	300	Senior
T	DOUG WIDELL, Boston College	6-04	286	Senior
C	JOHN FLANNERY, Syracuse	6-03	265	Soph.
G	JASON KUIPERS, Florida State	6-02	268	Senior
G	JOHN STROIA, West Virginia	6-03	262	Senior
QB	MAJOR HARRIS, West Virginia	6-01	215	Soph.
RB	A.B. BROWN, West Virginia	5-10	211	Senior
RB	DARYL JOHNSTON, Syracuse	6-01	238	Senior

DEFENSE

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
DL	MARLON BROWN, Memphis State	6-04	222	Senior
DL	SHANE CURRY, Miami (Fla.)	6-04	245	Soph.
DL	JOHN FOLEY, Notre Dame	6-03	251	Junior
DL	BURT GROSSMAN, Pittsburgh	6-06	260	Junior
DL	ERIC HAYES, Florida State	6-03	270	Junior
LB	RICHARD HARVEY, Tulane	6-02	227	Senior
LB	DALE JACKSON, West Virginia	6-02	244	Senior
LB	JERRY OLSAVSKY, Pittsburgh	6-02	218	Senior
LB	DARNELL WARREN, West Virginia	6-00	236	Junior
DB	DEREK BAKER, Rutgers	5-11	205	Senior
DB	BRIAN CHIZMAR, Penn State	6-01	204	Junior
DB	DAVID HOLMES, Syracuse	6-01	187	Senior
DB	ROBERT ROBINSON, South Carolina	5-11	185	Senior

SPECIALISTS

Pos.	Name & School	Ht.	Wt.	Class
PK	COLLIN MACKIE, South Carolina	5-10	165	Soph.
P	ED LIBERATI, Temple	6-00	190	Junior

*Selected as All-Purpose player.



Lewis



Phillips



Tomberlin



Green



Carter



Haering



McDowell



Paul

1987 STATISTICS

Returns in boldface

RUSHING

	Plays	Yards	TDs
Heyward, Pittsburgh.....	357	1655	11
Thomas, Penn State.....	268	1414	11
Smith, Florida State.....	172	1230	7
McNair, Temple.....	249	1058	6
Bell, Boston College.....	213	1015	3
Gandy, Southern Miss.....	225	1025	6
Green, South Carolina.....	214	950	14
McKinney, Cincinnati.....	208	950	5
Brown, West Virginia.....	167	808	4

PASSING EFFICIENCY

	Att.	Cmp.	Rating
McPherson, Syracuse.....	229	129	164.3
T. Jones, Tulane.....	319	192	139.9
Walsh, Miami (Fla.).....	298	176	138.8
Power, Boston College.....	233	133	138.2
McCoin, Cincinnati.....	268	158	132.1
McManus, Florida State.....	264	138	125.4
Genilla, Pittsburgh.....	145	80	121.0
Ellis, South Carolina.....	385	213	116.8
Erney, Rutgers.....	225	122	110.3

RECEIVING

	Cgt.	Yards	TDs
Zeno, Tulane.....	77	1206	13
Sharpe, South Carolina.....	56	862	5
Flutie, Boston College.....	48	786	7
Kane, Syracuse.....	44	968	14
Irvin, Miami (Fla.).....	44	715	6

ALL-PURPOSE

	Plays	Yards	PG
Heyward, Pittsburgh.....	378	1853	168.5
Brown, Notre Dame.....	130	1843	167.6
Thomas, Penn State.....	295	1772	161.1
Smith, Florida State.....	178	1358	135.8
Bell, Boston College.....	232	1197	133.0
McNair, Temple.....	268	1192	132.4
Jeffries, Virginia Tech.....	155	1237	123.7
Sharpe, South Carolina.....	99	1330	120.9
Green, South Carolina.....	236	1167	116.7
Pierce, Tulane.....	111	1282	116.6
McKinney, Cincinnati.....	236	1269	115.4

PUNTING

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Phelan, Notre Dame.....	50	2044	40.9
Klauss, Penn State.....	62	2511	40.5
Rudison, Akron.....	74	2958	40.3
Carlson, West Virginia.....	54	2169	40.2
O'Connell, Rutgers.....	64	2523	39.4

PUNT RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Henry, Southern Miss.....	41	556	13.6
Hamilton, Louisville.....	17	209	12.3
Taylor, No. Illinois.....	23	282	12.3
Sanders, Florida State.....	32	381	11.9
Brown, Notre Dame.....	34	401	11.8
Timpson, Penn State.....	15	162	10.8
Kane, Syracuse.....	27	259	9.6
Flutie, Boston College.....	14	128	9.1

FIELD GOALS

	FGA	FGM	PG
Mackie, South Carolina.....	30	23	2.1
Schmidt, Florida State.....	31	23	2.1
Ivanic, No. Illinois.....	24	18	1.6
Cox, Miami (Fla.).....	22	17	1.6

KICKOFF RETURNS

	No.	Yards	Avg.
Hill, Miami (Fla.).....	19	497	26.2
Jeffries, Virginia Tech.....	22	561	25.5
Tillman, Southern Miss.....	26	646	24.9
Redding, SW Louisiana.....	24	579	24.1
Talley, West Virginia.....	24	464	23.2
Arnold, Memphis State.....	25	555	23.1

INTERCEPTIONS

	No.	Yards	PG
Edwards, South Carolina.....	8	132	.70
Blades, Miami (Fla.).....	5	61	.50
Dillahun, East Carolina.....	5	56	.50
King, SW Louisiana.....	5	49	.50
Brenner, SW Louisiana.....	5	20	.50

Washington, DB, Soph.; Robbie Weeks, FL, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Ron Baham, WR/DB; David Dawkins, DB (RS); Lee Otis Jackson, OL; Tim Roberts, DT; Shawn White, DL.

Schedule: Stephen F. Austin, Sept. 3; at Florida State, Sept. 10; Virginia Tech, Sept. 17; at East Carolina, Sept. 24; Louisville, Oct. 1; at Tulane, Oct. 8; Mississippi State (at Jackson), Oct. 15; at Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 22; Memphis State, Oct. 29; at Auburn, Nov. 5; at Louisiana Tech, Nov. 12.

If being there before counts for anything, then Southern Mississippi may have something in new Coach Curley Hallman.

Hallman was a defensive back on the 1967 Texas A&M team that won the Southwest Conference title and defeated Alabama in the Cotton Bowl. He was an assistant on national championship teams at Alabama in 1973 and Clemson in 1981. He comes to his first head coaching job after six years as defensive secondary coach at Texas A&M.

Hallman inherits an offense that returns tailback Shelton Gandy (1,025 yards rushing last fall), team-leading receiver Darryl Tillman (also an excellent kickoff returner) and quarterback Brett Favre. Just who will do the blocking is another matter because all five starting linemen from '87 completed their eligibility.

The defense poses problems, too. Only one starter returns in the secondary, and the Golden Eagles must replace stalwart linebackers Onesimus Henry and Sidney Coleman, who combined for 294 tackles last fall. Hallman will rebuild around tackle Steve Rankin.

LOUISVILLE

Coach: Howard Schnellenberger (8-24-1, 3 years; 49-40-1 overall, 8 years).

1987 Record: 3-7-1.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** 5-2.

Key Losses: Kevin Harvey, DT; Kirk Kennedy, P; Rodney Knighton, FB; Jim Nauert, C; Chris Thieneman, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Deon Booker, HB, 5-10/189, Sr.; Pete Burkey, T, 6-4/266, Soph.; Anthony Cummings, WR, 5-8/163, Soph.; Allen Douglas, C, 6-3/246, Jr.; Jay Gruden, QB, 6-1/192, Sr.; Joey Hamilton, WR, 5-10/187, Sr.; Mike McKinney, G, 6-3/271, Jr.; Jeff Smith, C, 6-1/249, Sr.; George Williams, TE, 6-3/230, Sr. **Defense (9):** Arthur Alexander, DB, 5-10/174, Jr.; Bob Bare, S, 6-2/203, Soph.; Colburn Clark, NG, 6-1/274, Soph.; Pat Fitzgerald, E, 6-4/204, Soph.; Terry Lantz, DB, 5-8/175, Jr.; Mark Sander, LB, 6-2/226, Soph.; Chris Sellers, LB, 5-11/206, Sr.; Neill Singleton, E, 6-2/215, Jr.; Gary Warren, DB, 5-9/174, Sr.

Key Returners: Ron Bell, K, Soph.; Andrew Higgs, DT, Jr. (RS); Keith Stephens, RB, Jr.; Ted Washington, DT, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Liggett Butler, DB; Alvin Johnson, DB; Browning Nagle, QB (transfer/West Virginia); Rob Nuttle, QB (transfer/Maryland); Klaus Wilmsmeyer, P/K.

Schedule: At Maryland, Sept. 3; Wyoming, Sept. 10; Memphis State, Sept. 17; at North Carolina, Sept. 24; at Southern Mississippi, Oct. 1; Tulsa, Oct. 8; Virginia, Oct. 15; at Tulane, Oct. 22; at Cincinnati, Oct. 29; Virginia Tech, Nov. 5; Western Kentucky, Nov. 12.

Progress has come by the inch at Louisville, where last year's 3-7-1 record was the best in Howard Schnellenberger's three years as coach.

The Cardinals remain young, but



Temple running back Todd McNair ran for 1,058 yards in just nine games last year.

Schnellenberger hopes his redshirting efforts will begin to pay dividends. Louisville returns 18 starters, including record-setting quarterback Jay Gruden, team-leading rusher Deon Booker and three of last season's top four receivers.

Gruden already holds or shares six school records, including his record 2,481 yards passing in '87. But he must cut down on his interceptions (21 last fall). Booker rushed for 671 yards last year but was plagued by injuries.

The biggest improvement must come on defense, where the Cardinals yielded 4.7 yards per carry on the ground, gave up the big play in the air and allowed opponents to score an average of 31.6 points per game. Nine defensive starters return, but that may be a curse more than a blessing given last year's numbers.

TEMPLE

Coach: Bruce Arians (24-31, 6 years).

1987 Record: 4-7.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Lance Chisholm, LB; Keith Dembo, OL; Kirk Drukenbrod, DL; Andy Garczynski, WR; Keith Gloster, WR; Mike Hinnant, TE; Carl Holmes, OL; John Incollingo, OL; Ralph Jarvis, DL; Kevin Jones, OL; Sheldon Morris, FB; Eddie Parker, S; Joe Possenti, LB; Toren Schonyers, LB; Mike Swanson, DL; Rodney Walker, DL.

Starters Returning: Offense (3): Rich Drayton, WR, 6-1/185, Soph.; Todd McNair, RB, 6-2/190, Sr.; Chris Possenti, OT, 6-5/280, Sr. **Defense (3):** John Armstrong, S, 6-2/200, Jr. (switched from LB); Joe Greenwood, CB, 6-0/190, Sr.; Andy Pappalardo, E,

6-4/255, Sr.

Key Returners: Matt Baker, QB, Soph.; Mike Constantatos, DT; Pete Bernard, OG; Tony Lerro, QB, Jr.; Ed Liberati, P, Jr.; Maurice Johnson, TE, Jr.; Mike Pelys, WR, Sr.; Kenyatta Rush, DT, Soph.; Loranzo Square, LB, Jr.; Jeff Thomas, LB, Sr.; Bill Wright, K, Sr. **Top Newcomers:** Fred Gunter, RB (JC); Scott McNair, TB (RS); Santo Stephens, LB (RS); Greg Taylor, LB (JC).

Schedule: At Syracuse, Sept. 3; Alabama, Sept. 10; at Navy, Sept. 17; Penn State, Oct. 1; at Pittsburgh, Oct. 15; at California, Oct. 22; at Rutgers, Oct. 29; East Carolina, Nov. 5; at Akron, Nov. 12; Boston College, Nov. 26.

Temple Coach Bruce Arians is singing the praises of running back Todd McNair, who ran for 1,058 yards in nine games last fall.

"Todd McNair should be the best back in the East," Arians said. "I would have to think Todd and Alabama's Bobby Humphrey should be the highest-rated backs in the country."

The quarterback situation is muddled, with sophomore Matt Baker getting a slight nod over junior Tony Lerro. Working behind a promising front wall, the quarterback will be looking for speedy wide receiver Rich Drayton.

The defense will depend heavily on the leadership of end Andy Pappalardo and cornerback Joe Greenwood. The only other returning starter is linebacker-turned-safety John Armstrong. Still, the Owls' goals are high.

"We won't be happy unless we're in a bowl game," Arians said.

CINCINNATI

Coach: Dave Currey (16-28, 4 years; 56-64 overall, 11 years).

1987 Record: 4-7.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Vaughn Booker, LB; Jeff Graham, OT; Bob Leshnak, DT; John Lewis, S; Danny McColin, QB; Matt Middendorf, OT; Terry Noble, CB; Ervin Owens, OG; Lee Perkins, CB; Richard Rhodes, S; Hollis Smith, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (7): Leonard Cry, FB, 5-9/216, Sr.; Rob Hausfeld, T, 6-6/266, Jr. (switched from G); Daryl Huber, TE, 6-3/227, Sr.; Pat Lavelle, C, 6-4/260, Sr.; Al McKinney, RB, 6-0/193, Sr.; Roosevelt Mukes, FL, 5-10/166, Sr.; Steve Sanders, SE, 6-2/194, Sr. **Defense (4):** Chris Ashbeck, T, 6-3/264, Sr.; Donnie Robinson, LB, 6-0/222, Sr. (broke leg in spring practice); Art Sheffield, S, 6-1/213, Sr.; Andrew Stewart, E, 6-5/247, Sr.

Key Returners: Marvin Bowman, S, Jr.; Bill Davis, FL, Sr.; Glenn Farkas, QB, Soph.; Greg Heitkamp, OG, Sr.; Joe Hice, SE, Sr.; Dwayne Hunter, RB, Soph.; Phil Insalaco, K, Sr.; Gary Overgawau, P, Sr.; Tom Szabados, DT, Sr.; Scott Tackett, FB, Sr.; Ron Traut, LB, Jr. (RS/wrist).

Top Newcomers: Scott Britt, LB (JC); Eric Bush, TE (Prop 48); Johnathan Cockrell, CB (RS); Jackie Cooper, CB (JC); Lionel Dozier, CB (JC); Russell Wendell, LB (JC).

Schedule: At Boston College, Sept. 10; Austin Peay, Sept. 17; at Miami (O.), Sept. 24; at Rutgers, Oct. 1; at Penn State, Oct. 8; Virginia Tech, Oct. 15; at Miami (Fla.), Oct. 22; Louisville, Oct. 29; West Virginia, Nov. 5; Indiana State, Nov. 12; East Carolina, Nov. 19.

After back-to-back 5-6 seasons, 1987 was supposed to be the hump year at Cincinnati.

Continued

nati. But instead of getting over the hump, the Bearcats fell back down the hill a bit, finishing 4-7.

Coach Dave Currey has plenty of running backs and wide receivers, but no proven quarterback to replace record-setting Danny McCoin. McCoin's 1987 backup, sophomore Glenn Farkas, could get the nod.

There are experienced hands elsewhere in the backfield. Running back Al McKinney rushed for 950 yards last season, and fullbacks Leonard Cry and Scott Tackett combined for 624 yards.

At wide receiver, Roosevelt Mukes, Joe Hice and Bill Davis all are proven players. Davis, a converted quarterback, and Mukes combined for 81 catches last fall.

Tackle Chris Asbeck and end Andrew Stewart lead what should be a strong defensive line, but linebacker and the secondary could be problem areas.

TULSA

Coach: Dave Rader (first year at Tulsa).
1987 Record: 3-8.

Offense: Pro-Set. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Chad Craig, OT; Donnie Dee, DE; Doug Desherow, S; Michael Greer, CB; David Haynes, LB; Steve Hegdale, OT; Cobby Morrison, FB.

Starters Returning: Offense (8): Mike Anderson, TE, 6-5/214, Jr.; Dan Bitson, FL, 6-2/184, Soph.; Derrick Ellison, TB, 5-10/180, Sr.; Erick Harrison, SE, 6-0/184, Sr.; Chris Hilbreth, T, 6-5/271, Sr. (switched from G); Chris Kaiser, G, 6-2/279, Sr.; T.J. Rubley, QB, 6-4/198, Soph.; John Whitworth, C, 6-4/248, Soph. **Defense (7):** Eric Barrs, CB, 6-1/178, Soph. (switched from S); Anthony Brown, NG, 6-2/244, Sr.; Dennis Byrd, T, 6-5/272, Sr.; Lee Durham, LB, 6-3/212, Soph.;

Darrell Ellison, LB, 6-3/227, Sr.; Edward Epps, S, 6-0/203, Sr. (switched from CB); Mike Rosson, T, 6-6/249, Jr.

Key Returnees: Brett Adams, FB, Soph.; John Chargois, DT, Jr.; Tyson Garner, S, Sr.; Kyle Litterell, OG, Sr.; Matt Luke, LB, Jr. (RS); Donnie Maloney, TB, Sr. (transfer/Oklahoma); Wes McCalip, OG, Soph.; Marcus McVay, FL, Jr.; Glenn Murray, LB, Sr.; Dan Tarabrella, DT, Soph.; Horace Thompson, LB, Soph.; Gary Treat, TE, Jr. (switched from LB); Lenny Williams, S, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Craig Anderson, DB (JC); Eric Bennett, LB (JC); Demetrius Dansby, TB (Prop 48); Leo Depaolo, DL (JC); Brian Kane, OT (JC); Dan McIntyre, OT (JC); Eddie Randle, DE (JC); Monty Rice, FB (RS).

Schedule: Kansas State, Sept. 3; at Arkansas, Sept. 10; Texas-El Paso, Sept. 24; at Oklahoma State, Oct. 1; at Louisville, Oct. 8; at Houston, Oct. 15; at Nevada-Las Vegas, Oct. 29; at Miami (Fla.), Nov. 5; at Memphis State, Nov. 12; Temple, Nov. 19; Colorado State, Nov. 26.

It has happened again at Tulsa. For the third time in the last four years, the Golden Hurricane has a new coach. This time it's former Tulsa assistant Dave Rader replacing George Henshaw.

The 31-year-old Rader inherits two good ones from last year's 3-8 squad—quarterback T.J. Rubley and defensive tackle Dennis Byrd. Rubley passed for 2,058 yards and 12 touchdowns as a freshman last season. The big Byrd recorded 92 tackles, including seven for loss.

The defensive backfield and wideout spots loom as potential strong points, but the team will be young almost everywhere.

Surprisingly, a schedule that includes games at Arkansas, Oklahoma State and Miami (Fla.) will be softer than a year ago, when the Golden Hurricane opened

against a murderers' row of Oklahoma State, Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma. This fall, Tulsa hosts Kansas State in its opener.

VIRGINIA TECH

Coach: Frank Beamer (2-9, 1 year; 44-32-2, 7 years).

1987 Record: 2-9.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Wide Tackle Six.

Key Losses: Erik Chapman, QB; Greg Drew, DT; John FitzHugh, C; Rodney Good, OT; Steve Johnson, TE; Earnie Jones, FB; Victor Jones, LB; Kevin Keffe, OG; Eddie Neel, LB; Chuck Watson, DE; Carter Wiley, S.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Karl Borden, SE, 5-9/175, Soph.; Todd Grantham, T, 6-1/261, Sr.; Jon Jeffries, TB, 5-9/199, Soph.; Myron Richardson, FL, 5-11/202, Jr.; Glenn Watts, G, 6-3/262, Soph. **Defense (6):** Roger Brown, CB, 6-0/183, Jr.; Randy Cockrell, LB, 6-1/237, Jr.; John Granby, CB, 6-1/185, Soph.; Scott Hill, T, 6-3/257, Jr.; Bobby Martin, LB, 6-2/214, Jr.; Jimmy Whitten, E, 6-3/247, Soph.

Key Returnees: Chris Baucia, QB, Soph.; Mitch Dove, CB, Soph. (RS); Rich Fox, FB, Jr.; Chris Henderson, C, Jr.; Darwin Herdman, LB, Soph.; Chris Kinzer, K, Sr.; Sean Lucas, LB, Jr. (RS); Horacio Moronta, DT, Jr. (RS); Scott Rice, CB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Don Davis, L; Chris Holt, L; Skip Pavlik, C (JC); Cam Young, QB (transfer/North Carolina State); Tommy Zban, QB.

Schedule: At Clemson, Sept. 3; East Carolina, Sept. 10; at Southern Mississippi, Sept. 17; at Syracuse, Sept. 24; West Virginia, Oct. 1; South Carolina, Oct. 8; at Cincinnati, Oct. 15; Virginia, Oct. 29; at Louisville, Nov. 5; at Florida State, Nov. 12; James Madison, Nov. 19.

After seven consecutive winning seasons, Virginia Tech stumbled to 2-9 last fall in Coach Frank Beamer's first year.

Beamer received good news and bad news defensively during the off-season. The good news was the return of tackle Horacio Moronta, linebacker Sean Lucas and cornerback Mitch Dove. All were starters on the Hokies' 1986 Peach Bowl championship team but were academically ineligible last fall.

The bad news was the departure of defensive ends Chuck Watson and Joe Ledbetter. Both quit the team. Watson was a starter and Ledbetter a part-time starter last fall.

The defensive unit does return its top two tacklers from '87, tackle Scott Hill and inside linebacker Randy Cockrell, who combined for 310 stops.

On offense, the Hokies have no experienced quarterback to replace Erik Chapman. North Carolina State transfer Cam Young will get a look there. The top two offensive threats are tailback Jon Jeffries and flanker Myron Richardson.

Placekicker Chris Kinzer hopes to return to his 1986 form, when he made 22 of 27 field-goal attempts. He made only eight of 17 last season.

NAVY

Coach: Elliot Uzelac (2-9, 1 year; 40-48 overall, 8 years).

1987 Record: 2-9.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Bruce Bennett, OT; Joe Brennan, OG; Tim Brunn, OT; Matt Felt, C; Don



Tulsa quarterback T.J. Rubley passed for 2,058 yards and 12 touchdowns as a freshman last season.

Hughes, SE; Curtis Irby, DB; Mike Marchildon, DB; Mike Musser, DT; Paul Parker, HB; Chuck Smith, FB.

Starters Returning: Offense (4): James Bradley, HB, 5-7/189, Jr.; Alton Grizzard, QB, 5-11/181, Soph.; Tim Hofacre, G, 6-4/269, Sr.; Kevin Voss, TE, 6-4/230, Sr. **Defense (7):** Larry Dickinson, DB, 6-2/196, Jr.; Daron Fullwood, DB, 5-10/195, Jr.; Troy Holland, T, 6-5/237, Sr.; Mike Jimenez, MG, 6-1/223, Sr.; David Lowe, LB, 6-2/210, Jr.; Mark Pimpo, LB, 6-0/220, Sr.; Ray Worthington, LB, 6-0/220, Sr.

Key Returnees: Ted Fundoukos, K, Sr.; Ron Jones, LB, Sr.; Bart LaRocca, DB, Soph.; Scott Prinz, DT, Jr.; Deric Sims, FB, Soph.

Top Newcomers: Luther Archer, HB; Bill Bowling, LB; Jerry Dawson, WR; Greg Hlatky, DT; Gary McIntosh, QB (transfer/Maryland); Jason Pace, HB.

Schedule: James Madison, Sept. 3; Delaware, Sept. 10; Temple, Sept. 17; at The Citadel, Sept. 24; Yale, Oct. 1; at Air Force, Oct. 8; at Pittsburgh, Oct. 22; Notre Dame (at Baltimore), Oct. 29; at Syracuse, Nov. 5; at South Carolina, Nov. 12; Army (at Philadelphia), Dec. 3.

At Navy, the competition is healthy at quarterback. Sophomore Alton Grizzard started the last seven games in 1987 and led the team in rushing with 519 yards, a school record for a quarterback. But he faces a challenge from another sophomore, Maryland transfer Gary McIntosh.

Just how long the quarterbacks stay healthy is another matter, what with an inexperienced offensive line that returns only one starter—guard Tim Hofacre—and two other lettermen.

With seven starters back on defense, including tackle Troy Holland and linebacker Mark Pimpo (139 tackles), it should be tougher to score on the Midshipmen. The secondary has more experience than any Navy team in years.

Coach Elliot Uzelac's Middies have an open date October 15, and they'll need all the rest they can get. Their next four games are against Pitt, Notre Dame, Syracuse and South Carolina—three of which are on the road, and the fourth in Baltimore.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Jerry Pettibone (11-21-1, 3 years). **1987 Record:** 5-5-1.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: William Ballard, LB; Kevin Frazier, DT; Virgil Gerin, SE; Dan Graham, C; Reggie Harris, DT; Keith Hurley, HB; Kent Iwema, TE; Ted Karamanos, OG; Darren Monnett, P; Tony Savagnago, LB; John Sugrue, OT.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Bob Montel, G, 6-3/267, Sr.; Tim Peshek, FB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Dan Smaha, G, 6-5/273, Jr.; Marshall Taylor, QB, 5-9/182, Sr.; Rodney Taylor, HB, 5-7/160, Sr. **Defense (7):** Kevin Cassidy, S, 6-4/184, Soph.; Phil Foley, E, 6-3/214, Sr.; Ted Hennings, T, 6-4/239, Jr.; Mike Higgins, LB, 6-1/216, Sr.; Mike Manson, LB, 6-2/197, Sr.; Rufus Taylor, CB, 6-0/184, Soph.; Randall Townsel, CB, 5-11/183, Sr.

Key Returnees: Rodney Akis, DT, Jr.; Phil Bucaro, DT, Jr.; Cary Caliendo, DE, Soph.; Kurt Cassidy, SE, Soph.; Mark Clancy, SE, Soph.; Ron Delisi, LB, Jr.; Tim Green, LB, Jr.; Mike Hollingshed, LB, Sr. (RS); John Ivanic, K, Soph.; Claude Royster, TE, Soph.; Drake Shead, SE, Sr.; Brett Tucker, CB, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Cory Blake, TE; David Daugherty, SE; James Darby, QB (JC);



Virginia Tech needs kicker Chris Kinzer to return to his 1986 form, when he made 22 of 27 field-goal attempts.

Steve Hendriksen, LB (Prop 48); Tyrone Isaac, HB; Joe Jenkins, OT; Milton Jones, CB (Prop 48); Stacey Robinson, QB (Prop 48); John Rowland, DT (transfer/Minnesota).

Schedule: Akron, Sept. 3; Middle Tennessee, Sept. 10; at Wisconsin, Sept. 17; at Minnesota, Sept. 24; Southwest Missouri State, Oct. 1; at Toledo, Oct. 8; at Southwestern Louisiana, Oct. 15; at Southern Illinois, Oct. 22; Ball State, Oct. 29; Western Illinois, Nov. 5; Western Michigan, Nov. 12.

If Marshall Taylor isn't healthy, Northern Illinois may not have a leg to stand on. With Taylor running the wishbone last fall, the Huskies finished with a school-record 4,420 yards in total offense and were sixth in Division I-A in rushing offense.

Taylor, who rushed for 826 yards and passed for 1,039 last season, suffered broken bones in his lower left leg in the 1987 finale against Nevada-Las Vegas. The bones were repaired surgically with a metal plate. If the leg troubles Taylor, Coach Jerry Pettibone may have to choose among three backup quarterbacks, none of whom has taken a snap at a four-year college. If Taylor can go, watch out.

"Taylor knows more tricks than David Copperfield," Pettibone said.

Halfback and return specialist Rodney Taylor figures to add more than a few yards to his career total of 2,669 all-purpose yards. The Huskies pass more often, and more effectively, than most wishbone attacks, but the top two receivers from last fall are gone.

On defense, the Huskies' unusual 4-4 alignment returns seven starters, plus talented linebacker Mike Hollingshed, a former starter at safety who was sidelined by academic problems last fall.

ARMY

Coach: Jim Young (30-26-1, 5 years; 99-58-2 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 5-6.

Offense: Wishbone. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Dave Berdan, DB; Mark Charette, TE; Chance Conner, DB; Tory Crawford, QB; Ken Goodlow, OG; Ray Griffiths, LB; Eric Keltner, SE; Tom Mathers, DT; John Oleinik, OG; Andy Peterson, HB; Brother Ratliff, OT; Craig Raymond, C; Bill Schleiden, OT; Chuck Williams, DB.

Continued

BEST & WORST

Most underrated coaches: Dick Anderson, Rutgers; Charlie Bailey, Memphis State.

Best coaches: Jack Bicknell, Boston College; Bobby Bowden, Florida State; Mike Gottfried, Pittsburgh; Lou Holtz, Notre Dame; Jimmy Johnson, Miami (Fla.); Dick MacPherson, Syracuse; Joe Paterno, Penn State; Nelson Stokley, Southwestern Louisiana.

Best programs: Boston College, Florida State, Miami (Fla.), Notre Dame, Pittsburgh, Penn State, South Carolina, West Virginia.

Worst program: Akron.

Programs on the rise: Rutgers, Memphis State, Southwestern Louisiana, Tulane.

Most underrated players: Jim Bell, TB, Boston College; Dan Bitson, FL, Tulsa; Rob Burnett, DT, Syracuse; LeRoy Butler, S, Florida State; Dennis Byrd, DT, Tulsa; Scott Erney, QB, Rutgers; Chris Gannon, DE, Southwestern Louisiana; Mark Green, TB/FL, Notre Dame; Mark Hall, DT, Southwestern Louisiana; Erick Harrison, SE, Tulsa; Richard Harvey, LB, Tulane; Henry Henderson, TB, Rutgers; Chris Ingram, CB, Syracuse; Dale Jackson, LB, West Virginia; Tim James, FB, East



Star on the horizon: Pittsburgh defensive tackle Marc Spindler

Carolina; Daryl Johnston, FB, Syracuse; Grant Lowe, OT, East Carolina; Al McKinney, RB, Cincinnati; Todd McNair, RB, Temple; Jerry Olsavsky, LB, Pittsburgh; Wayne Pryor, FB, Memphis State; Robert Robinson, CB, South Carolina; Marshall Taylor, QB, Northern Illinois; Darryl Tillman, WR, Southern Mississippi; Tom Waddle, WR, Boston College; David Widell, OT, Boston College.

Stars on the horizon: Terry Anthony, WR, Florida State; Derek Brown, TE, Notre Dame; Mark Chmura, TE, Boston

College; Xavier Crawford, RB, Memphis State; Anthony Cummings, WR, Louisville; Maurice Crum, LB, Miami (Fla.); Rich Drayton, WR, Temple; John Foley, DT, Notre Dame; Tim Frager, TB, Boston College; Corian Freeman, CB, Florida State; Denell Harper, RB, East Carolina; Baron Jackson, WR/DB, Pittsburgh; Andre Jones, LB, Notre Dame; Jimmie Jones, DT, Miami (Fla.); Donnie Maloney, TB, Tulsa; Corey Miller, LB, South Carolina; Rob Moore, WR, Syracuse; Michael Owens, RB, Syracuse; Junior Robinson, CB, East Carolina; Marc Spindler, DT, Pittsburgh; Michael Stonebreaker, LB, Notre Dame; Ted Washington, DT, Louisville.

Best units: Offensive backfield—Notre Dame, Florida State, Penn State; receivers—Florida State, Pittsburgh, Tulsa; offensive linemen—Florida State, West Virginia, Syracuse; defensive linemen—Miami (Fla.), Florida State, Southwestern Louisiana; linebackers—West Virginia, Notre Dame, Miami (Fla.); defensive backfield—Florida State, Syracuse, West Virginia.

Independent snake pits: Florida State, Miami (Fla.), Notre Dame, Penn State, South Carolina.

—JOHN HADLEY & GARY LEVY

Starters Returning: Offense (2): Ben Barnett, FB, 6-0/225, Jr.; Mike Mayweather, HB, 5-8/180, Soph. **Defense (6):** Dan Cooney, NG, 6-0/248, Sr.; Greg Gadson, LB, 5-11/195, Sr.; Josh Haines, T, 6-4/250, Jr.; Troy Lingley, LB, 6-0/220, Sr.; O'Neal Miller, S, 6-0/170, Jr.; Chuck Schretzman, LB, 6-2/215, Sr.

Key Returnees: Bryan Babb, QB, Sr.; Paul Capriotti, HB, Soph.; Pat Davie, LB, Jr.; Sean Jordan, SE, Jr.; Jack Frey, OG, Jr.; Mike Karsonovich, OT, Sr.; Mark Mooney, QB, Sr.; Bit Rambusch, P/K, Sr.; Ed Schultz, TE, Sr.; Mike Thorson, CB, Sr.; Keith Walker, K, Sr. **Schedule:** Holy Cross, Sept. 10; at Washington, Sept. 17; Northwestern, Sept. 24; Bucknell, Oct. 1; at Yale, Oct. 8; Lafayette, Oct. 15; at Rutgers, Oct. 22; Air Force, Nov. 5; Vanderbilt, Nov. 12; Boston College (in Ireland), Nov. 19; Navy (at Philadelphia), Dec. 3.

Army Coach Jim Young hopes the bad news of an injury-plagued 5-6 season will translate into some good news this year.

The Cadets went through six quarterbacks in their worst season since 1983, Young's first year at West Point. Starter Tory Crawford went down early with a knee injury and was succeeded by five others. Army's wishbone sputtered, but Young now has five returnees with game experience. Mark Mooney still is bothered by a foot injury but probably will start the season. Bryan Babb, diagnosed as clean of a cancerous tumor that ended his '87 season, is another possibility.

The rest of the backfield is solid with halfback Mike Mayweather and fullback Ben Barnett, who combined for 1,385 yards rushing last fall. But they will be

running behind a line that has new faces from tackle to tackle.

A defense that returns six starters will have to carry the offense, at least for a while. The secondary was hardest hit by graduation, but O'Neal Miller is dependable at safety. The Cadets' leading tackler returns in senior linebacker Troy Lingley (107 tackles), and the line is experienced.

AKRON

Coach: Gerry Faust (11-11, 2 years; 41-37-1 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 4-7.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 52.

Key Losses: Milt Kimbrough, FL; Doug Knepp, DT; Jay Miller, LB; Gregg Townsend, OG.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Derek Alston, TB, 5-10/205, Jr.; John Buddenberg, T, 6-5/255, Sr.; Shawn Fagan, G, 6-3/265, Sr.; Dave Feather, T, 6-5/270, Jr.; Steve King, G, 6-6/265, Sr.; Andy Kubik, QB, 5-11/174, Jr.; Kurt Latell, TE, 6-3/225, Jr.; John Motton, FB, 6-1/205, Jr.; Corey Penland, WR, 5-9/170, Jr. **Defense (9):** Scott Brown, E, 6-2/240, Soph.; Mike Felsoci, LB, 6-2/235, Sr.; Chris Frowner, S, 6-1/200, Sr.; Pierce Joiner, NG, 6-0/260, Jr.; Robert Lyons, S, 6-3/190, Sr.; Mike Rahach, LB, 6-1/220, Jr.; Gary Tyler, CB, 5-11/175, Sr.; Curtis Williams, LB, 6-5/220, Jr.; Shannon Wolfe, CB, 5-11/185, Soph.

Key Returnees: Carlos Barrow, LB, Sr.; Steve Brown, QB, Sr.; Terry Mays, LB, Soph.; Scott Rindfuss, TB, Jr.; John Susi, C, Jr.

Top Newcomers: Randy Baker, LB (JC); John Burton, LB (RS); Kevin Callahan, DB (RS); Ozzie Jackson, TB (Prop 48); Darren Johnson, WR (JC); Mike Johnson, QB (JC);

Doug Lewis, TB (Prop 48); Stacy Parris, OT (JC); Bob Singletary, FB (transfer/Minnesota); Kevin Sweitzer, QB, (RS); Leonard Thomas, WR (JC).

Schedule: At Northern Illinois, Sept. 3; at Kent State, Sept. 10; Central Michigan, Sept. 17; at New Mexico, Sept. 24; at Youngstown State, Oct. 1; Arkansas State, Oct. 8; at Auburn, Oct. 15; Long Beach State, Oct. 22; Fullerton State, Oct. 29; New Mexico State, Nov. 5; Temple, Nov. 12.

Former Division I-AA member Akron found the going rough last season, its first with the big boys. The Zips went 4-7, although three of those losses were by five points or less.

All but four of 22 starters return on both sides of the ball, but improvement won't be easy because the Zips continue to upgrade their schedule. Auburn has been added this year, and only two I-AA opponents are scheduled, compared with four in '87.

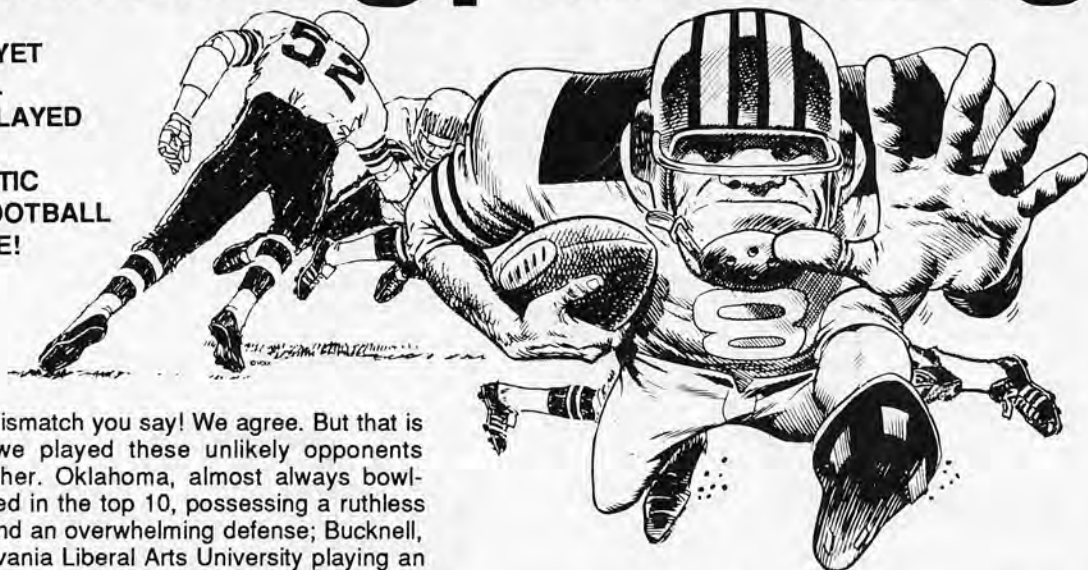
Three of last season's top four receivers return, as does quarterback Andy Kubik. But Coach Gerry Faust plans to look at transfers at both positions.

The running game also could use more punch. For the first time since 1979, Akron failed to have a 1,000-yard rusher. The team's per-game rushing average of 138.3 yards was its lowest since 1965.

The defensive line is unsettled, but three starters return at linebacker, including team-leading tackler Mike Rahach. The secondary, where safety Robert Lyons stands out, returns intact. ■

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Following are the stories of eight underexposed players. All are standouts in their respective conferences or regions whose performances last season warranted national recognition and All-America acclaim, but, for a variety of reasons, they didn't receive the attention they rightfully deserved.

A name worth remembering: Falanda Newton

By KEVIN SHERRINGTON
Dallas Morning News

Falanda Anastasia Newton isn't exactly sure how his mother came up with the name, but time has tempered his embarrassment.

"It's a name that sticks," he said.

So does its owner.

Newton, Texas Christian's 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior free safety, hits harder than his lyrical name might imply. He hits not only hard, but frequently, as evidenced by the fact that he was second on the team with 110 tackles last season. He also made five tackles for loss, broke up eight passes, led the Horned Frogs with seven interceptions and was named a second-team All-America.

Many people believe Newton can be every bit as good as former Baylor star Thomas Everett, the 1986 Jim Thorpe Award winner as the nation's top defensive back. Coach Jim Wacker shares that opinion. A secretary in the TCU football office said Wacker has been "running around, telling everyone that Falanda should be an All-America next season. It's nice to know that someone else thinks so, too."

Said Wacker: "Falanda is like having another linebacker out there. Plus, he leads us in interceptions. There's no doubt that he's our best player."

TCU coaches have had high hopes for Newton ever since he racked up 112 tackles as a freshman. But he followed up with a mediocre sophomore season that Newton said resulted from his being forced to alternate with Billy Jones at safety.

Texas Christian safety Falanda Newton likes to hit hard and frequently.



EXPOSED

Rick Johnson, who spent one year as TCU's defensive coordinator before leaving for Duke after last season, ended Newton's part-time play in 1987.

"He made it different for the free safety because he put me in all the places to make the play," Newton said. "The more you're in there, the more big plays you make."

The Horned Frogs' new defensive coordinator, Marc Dove, said his defensive philosophy may be even simpler than Johnson's, who instituted a basic game plan that required more of the players' physical ability. That system appeared to be working well as TCU won four consecutive midseason games to move into contention for a Cotton Bowl berth. But the defense fell apart in the last three games as the Horned Frogs lost all three while allowing an average of 34 points per contest.

"That last one against A&M (a 42-24 blowout) was probably my worst game," Newton said. "I don't know if I could have missed any more tackles. That game kind of stands out because I'm capable of making those plays."

Newton said he played so poorly against Texas A&M that he has not watched any films of it. He said he has even tried to "forget football a little bit" this spring.

"There are times when you say, 'Is it worth it?' The practice, the running, the preparation," he said.

Fortunately for TCU fans, he has always answered yes to the question. But he takes a light approach to football that occasionally has been misconstrued by his teammates.

"It probably causes problems for some people because they say I'm not fired up," he said. "I keep it to myself until I get to the point where I need to be. I might go around and joke before the game, but I'll be ready."

A few upperclassmen didn't appreciate the humor, particularly the timing of his jokes just before games, when he was a freshman and sophomore.

"It caused some problems back then," he said. "The line gets prepared differently than the defensive backs, and they'd say, 'We need to get ready; stop joking around.'"

We'd tell them we were just trying to relax and they didn't understand. But we have an understanding now. We still tell our jokes, but we get in our own little group.

"We've come together more as a team now. We can handle the ups and downs."

Newton said he has matured in many ways, notably in his response to the name his mother gave him. She has given sketchy details of its origin, telling her son it was inspired by a college of the same name.

Newton said he used to hate it, mainly because people couldn't pronounce it. It's Fuh-LAND-uh. He said he likes his name now, although he doesn't usually give out his middle name, which at least has some historical basis, even if his most famous namesake was a Russian princess.

So the real question is, now that he has grown to like it, will there be a Falanda Anastasia Newton Jr.?

"I ask myself, 'Would I put my son through the same things I've gone through with my name?'" he said. "Then I decided it would be suitable if I were the only one." ■

Record-setting year surprises Duke's Hines

By DOUG DOUGHTY
Roanoke Times & World-News

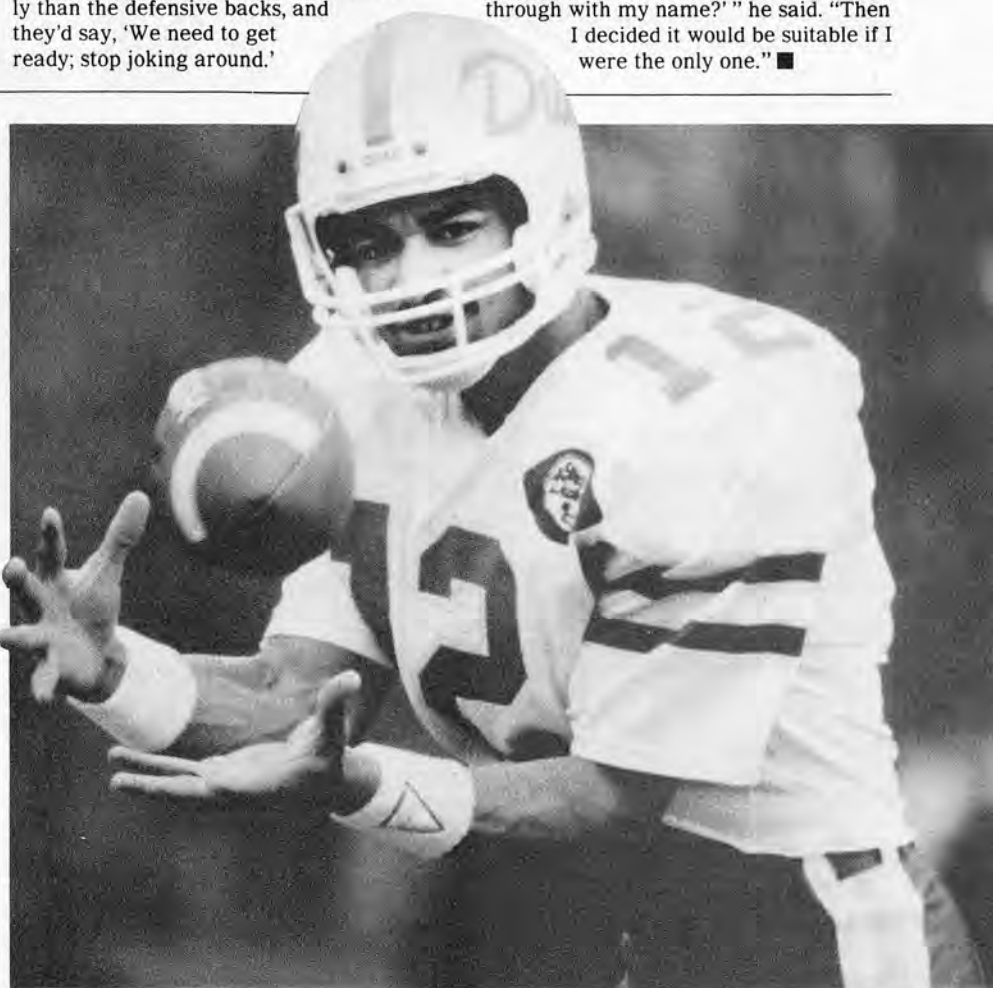
As a youngster growing up in Chapel Hill, N.C., Clarkston Hines dreamed of a day when he might take the field at North Carolina's Kenan Stadium and maybe even set a few records.

Years later, Hines would take advantage of his Kenan Stadium debut to break one of the Atlantic Coast Conference's longest-standing records—but he wasn't wearing a Tar Heel uniform.

Hines, who went to Duke after completing his high school career in Jacksonville, Fla., set the ACC record for receiving yardage in a season when the Blue Devils beat North Carolina, 25-10, in their 1987 finale.

Continued

Making things happen is what Duke flanker Clarkston Hines does best.



Hines, who had caught just three passes as a redshirt freshman in 1986, finished the 1987 season with 57 receptions for 1,093 yards and 11 touchdowns. The old mark of 1,080, set by Duke's Wes Chesson, had stood since 1970.

"I had no idea I'd have the kind of year I had," said Hines, a 6-foot-1, 170-pound junior flanker. "I just wanted to be able to play again. I didn't think I'd played up to my capability (in 1986)."

Hines missed the entire 1985 season after suffering torn knee ligaments in pre-season practice, and he wore a bulky brace throughout the '86 season. After a second operation, he did not participate in spring practice in 1987.

"The first indication I had of his true ability was the first practice during pre-season," said Steve Spurrier, who was named Duke coach before the 1987 season. "He went over the middle and the quarterback threw a high, hard one. The ball was a little bit behind him, but he twisted his body and snared it. It was a tremendous athletic move."

Hines was listed behind Greg Downs at flanker, with the passing game expected to center around split end Doug Green, who had totaled 97 receptions the two previous seasons.

"The thing was, no one got off to a hot start," Hines said. "Coach Spurrier called the receivers together and said he was upset because we weren't making the big plays."

"I hadn't caught many passes till the Maryland game. Then I started to make some things happen."

Hines caught eight passes for 154 yards against the Terrapins and put himself in position to set the record when he had 11 receptions for 192 yards and three touchdowns against North Carolina State.

"I didn't hear anything about the record till the Monday before the Carolina game," said Hines, who became Duke's chief threat as an injury-plagued Green fell to 31 receptions. "It was very special to get it against Carolina. I'd always been a Tar Heel fan growing up and went to a lot of games at Kenan Stadium."

Hines had hoped to get a Division I scholarship in basketball, "which was my favorite sport," he said. "I worked hard to make that dream a reality, but there was

a lot more interest in football where I was from in Florida."

Duke had become accustomed to making regular stops at Bolles High School in Jacksonville when recruiting two of Hines' future teammates, Terrence Laster and Dewayne Terry.

"I'd never been a Duke fan," said Hines, whose first cousin is married to former North Carolina star Lawrence Taylor, "but I wasn't really into the rivalry. I was indifferent more than anything else."

Hines was clocked in 4.38 seconds over 40 yards when he arrived at Duke, and while the injuries have taken some of his speed, he was back down in the 4.5 range after some strenuous summer workouts before last season. Wide receivers coach Marvin Brown had Hines dragging a tire for 100 yards in an exercise that proved so effective, Spurrier approved it for the rest of the team.

It helped turn Hines into an All-ACC choice, although he remains largely unheralded on a national scale.

"As far as getting attention, that will come," Hines said. "I think, sometimes, you can get too much attention. I don't need all that scrutiny." ■

Burnett spells double trouble for Syracuse foes

By TOM LEO
Syracuse Herald-Journal

Coaches preparing to play Syracuse last fall spent hours studying game films, looking for a way to slow down star defensive linemen Ted Gregory and Paul Frase. Invariably, they would turn their attention to a lesser-known player creating just as much havoc along the line of scrimmage.

"Who's number 70?" they would ask.

They don't ask anymore. By the end of last season, which ended with a 16-16 tie against Auburn in the Sugar Bowl and an 11-0-1 record for the upstart Orangemen, it became clear that number 70, Rob Burnett, was a dominating force at defensive tackle and the perfect complement for Gregory and Frase.

When Gregory was healthy, he and Frase drew a lot of double-team assignments. As a result, Burnett emerged as Syracuse's sack leader by getting to the quarterback 11 times. Not bad for a sophomore who had never started a game before last season.

But Gregory and Frase have departed, leaving Burnett as the main man on the defensive line. If Syracuse is to repeat its success of last season, Burnett will have to be even better than he was in 1987.

"He has got to be the guy. We need him to be the next Ted Gregory, Tim Green,



If Syracuse is to repeat its success of last season, defensive tackle Rob Burnett will have to be even better than he was in 1987.

Mike Charles, Blaise Winter," said Syracuse Coach Dick MacPherson, rattling off the names of some of the Orangemen's outstanding pass rushers in recent years. "... He's the guy who has to make it happen up front, so if they're double-teaming him, everybody else is one on one. And if they don't double-team him, they're going to be in trouble."

Burnett is ready for the double teams.

He started getting them at the end of last season when Gregory was on the bench with an injured knee. But Burnett, who is 6-foot-3 and 254 pounds with 4.7-second speed in the 40-yard dash, expects to get to the quarterback anyway.

"I'll get my share of sacks," he said.

Burnett approaches his job much the same way Earl, the four-foot long pet boa constrictor he keeps in his campus apart-

ment, goes after his dinner.

"I like to watch him eat," Burnett said. "Put a rat in there and he'll tear it up."

Burnett, in fact, goes after quarterbacks with such reckless abandon that MacPherson said he would like the junior to play with a little more control this season. He wants Burnett, his new "impact player," to read defenses more carefully before taking off in single-minded pursuit of the quarterback. He also wants him to

be a team leader.

"The other guys are gone and all of a sudden Rob Burnett is the man everyone's looking up to," MacPherson said. "Rob has to lead by example."

That means he has to be disciplined.

"Immaturity hurt him at times last season," MacPherson said. "He has to learn to be more under control. But my God, he's got all the tools to be the best that's ever played here at the position."

"We're not talking about Superman, but we're talking about a guy who's unique. There's only a few like him in the country. But right now nobody plays like him—nobody that we've seen."

Burnett wants to be the best, although comparisons to other players don't interest him.

"I don't want to be compared with anyone," he said. "I kind of like to have my own style." ■

Ragin' Cajuns' Gannon, Hall stand tall

By BRUCE BROWN
Lafayette Daily Advertiser

While one sat out spring practice to recover from shoulder surgery, the other was showing Southwestern Louisiana coaches that he was much better than he showed during an injury-plagued 1987 season. But when the 1988 campaign rolls around, Chris Gannon and Mark Hall will get their acts together and give the Ragin' Cajuns one of the best defensive lineman tandems in the country.

"You look around the country," Southwestern Coach Nelson Stokley said, "and I'd be surprised if any two defensive linemen go higher in the (NFL) draft than Chris and Mark. They are the kind of players we have to have."

Gannon was a 6-foot-2, 200-pounder from Orange Park (Fla.) High School in 1984 when he chose to redshirt. He now is a 6-5, 258-pound senior defensive end who contributed 70 tackles (13 behind the line of scrimmage), six quarterback sacks, three pass breakups, two fumble recoveries, two forced fumbles and an interception to the Ragin' Cajuns' 1987 defensive effort.

"Chris made himself a football player," Stokley said. "He's come so far in such a short period of time. He's worked extremely hard on the weights and on the field."

Gannon, who passed up spring drills after undergoing successful reconstructive surgery on the front of his shoulder, doesn't buy that self-made theory.

"Coaching had a lot to do with it," he shrugged. "The coaches just found the right spot for me. I'm in the perfect position. At end I have more freedom and can go one on one. I get fired up for that."

"It's the same with most of us on defense; we all work hard. When you see a friend get better, it gives you some incentive. I'm just keeping up with the program."

Said Stokley: "Chris knows what it takes. A lot of people can talk a good game, but when he talks, Chris has something to say. People listen."

The jury is still out on Hall. The 6-5, 285-pound defensive tackle had a lot to prove



Tackle Mark Hall (left) and end Chris Gannon give Southwestern Louisiana one of the best defensive lineman tandems in the country.

during spring drills. He was a man with a mission.

He had come out of Patterson (La.) High School as a 240-pound linebacker in 1985 and signed with Louisiana State. The former prep All-America spent one year at LSU before transferring to Gulf Coast Junior College in Mississippi, where he grew into a 285-pound junior college All-America.

But he was overweight when he arrived at Southwestern Louisiana and quickly hurt an ankle and a knee. He never lived up to his advance 1987 billing as a dominant player, despite finishing with 53 tackles. Thoughts of that 1987 campaign propelled Hall to an impressive spring.

"I was disappointed in my season," Hall said. "I was overweight and out of condition, and then I got hurt. I feel 100 percent better now. I run better since I lost some weight, I'm healthy, and I had a good spring. I'm recognizing the offense better. My strength is stopping the run, but I'm in shape now to stop the run and rush the passer."

Said Stokley: "Mark had a new system to learn, and when he came out of junior college he really hadn't played that much football. He didn't play that much at LSU, and then JC, and let's face it, there's a world of difference. I think we'll see a big

Continued

difference in his play.

"He's just so physical. If you drew up what you'd want in a defensive lineman—size, speed—you'd have Mark Hall. He relies a lot on his athletic ability and he had to learn on the run."

UTEP's Harvey is a one-man two-minute drill

By PHILL CASAUS
Albuquerque Journal

People in Spring Valley, N.Y., remember John Harvey as the shy, small kid who worked behind the counter at a fast-food emporium called Harry's Chicken.

"That was my part-time job my senior year in high school," he said. "We had pretty good food. Chicken, ribs, all of it."

Problem was, Harvey didn't want to be known for his fast-food affiliation in suburban New York City. He wanted to be recognized for his fast feet while running with a football. And to find fame in that endeavor, he packed his bags and headed west.

Little did the youngster know that Texas-El Paso once had been known as college football's Black Hole of Calcutta. Winning was not a part of UTEP's football tradition. But then that really didn't matter to Harvey. He just wanted to play.

"Nobody knew about me out of high school; basketball was the main thing at Spring Valley," Harvey said. "UTEP was the first school to offer me a full ride and I just took it. I wanted to prove things to the people in my hometown."

"There were people doubting my size, my speed. But like I tried to tell them, looks are deceiving."

To say the least. Harvey, who has grown to 6-foot and 190 pounds, has helped transform UTEP's once-moribund football program into the talk of the town.

He's done it with a slashing running style that has baffled opponents in the Western Athletic Conference. WAC defenses, geared to stop the league's abundance of passers and receivers, seem helpless against Harvey.

"He's a helluva two-minute drill," said UTEP Coach Bob Stull, who directed the Miners to a 7-4 record in 1987, the Miners' first winning season since 1970. "With a guy like John, you don't have to think deep post to score. You really don't even have to have a lot of blocking. You just have to get out of his way."

Harvey, who has compiled 2,812 rushing yards and 38 touchdowns in his collegiate career, already owns an armload of school records. The few that he hasn't broken should fall in 1988. After a 1,170-yard junior campaign, he is only 22 yards

Like Gannon, Hall feels at home in his defensive position. And both are careful when answering the inevitable questions about their futures in the NFL.

"It always comes up," Hall said, "but I try not to think about it. You watch it on TV and see the glamour, and you always dream about it. I used to like the Steelers with Mean Joe Greene and L.C. Greenwood. They were rough, rugged, and

played like they didn't care."

"I don't think about it (the NFL) much, really," Gannon said. "It's the same as coming out of high school. I came from a strong area, and I was happy just to get a scholarship. I look on pro ball and post-season play as a reward." ■



Running back John Harvey has helped transform Texas-El Paso's once-moribund football program into the talk of the town.

away from becoming UTEP's all-time leading rusher.

But even more impressive than the numbers is the excitement Harvey and his teammates have created in El Paso. UTEP no longer plays to echoes in the 52,000-seat Sun Bowl, a beautiful stadium that was close to capacity in several games last year.

"People here are all pumped up," said Eddie Mullens, UTEP's sports information director. "It's been that way for a while now."

Using Harvey as the driving force, UTEP could make a bid for the 1988 WAC title, the impossible dream before Stull's arrival from Massachusetts three years ago.

"My first two years were a struggle," said Harvey, who was recruited by the

staff of former coach Bill Yung. "But we got used to the coaches, and now we're a veteran team. The people here are excited; they're supporting us. We're all expecting wins."

With a star of Harvey's magnitude, it's natural to assume he would stand center stage in El Paso. But he doesn't, a result of that shyness that still dominates his personality four years later. He spends most of his time in a small apartment on the city's west side, just a few minutes from the Mexican border.

"I've gotten used to it here," he said. "I talk to the people I know, but that's very few. When I go out here, I let my friends do all the talking and I just sit and be quiet."

Until it's game time. Then John Harvey speaks volumes. ■

Cowboys' Dykes seeks respect, recognition

By BOB HERSOM
Daily Oklahoman

Hart Lee Dykes' athletic career has taken some unusual turns, from unwanted to most wanted to wanting.

No one wanted Dykes as a youngster. Then everyone wanted him as a high school football recruit. And now, as an Oklahoma State senior on the verge of breaking every major Big Eight Conference pass receiving record, Dykes is wanting for All-America recognition.

It seemingly has come full circle for Dykes, who was wanting for respect as a fourth-grader in Bay City, Tex., where he tried to play sports with his oldest brother, Todd, and Todd's junior high school friends.

"I was always the youngest and smallest, so everybody was much better than me," the 6-foot-4, 220-pound split end said. "Todd would get on me about dropping a pass or striking out or whatever, but that made me more competitive at a young age. I'd always be the last guy picked. Nobody really wanted me on their team because I was the small, little guy. I didn't like basketball back then because I couldn't get a shot off. They always blocked it. That can make you not like basketball.

"But that started to change when I got to junior high. I was playing with guys my own age, and I was bigger than most of the kids."

Dykes' athletic achievements reached almost legendary status at Bay City High School, where he earned all-state honors in football, basketball and baseball. Over three football seasons he caught 94 passes for 2,862 yards, the third-highest total in Texas prep history. Dykes was talented enough to play all three sports in college, and his 90-mph fastball made him a top pitching prospect in baseball.

"A Phillies scout said I would be a Number 1 draft choice in baseball," Dykes said, "but they found out I was the Number 1 football recruit in the nation and they didn't want to waste a pick.

"Sometimes I wonder what it would have been like playing pro baseball. Baseball was my first love because that's the only game you can play when you're real young. I still have ambitions to play baseball if things don't work out in football.

"I also wonder about if I had gone to college to play basketball. Until the 11th grade, I was more successful in basketball than football. I feel I have the ability to play major college basketball.

"But football is my favorite sport now because I hope to eventually make a living at it. I feel like I can keep getting better at it."

Dykes already is better than most. He is Oklahoma State's career leader with 140



Oklahoma State wide receiver Hart Lee Dykes possesses a rare combination of size, speed and ability.

receptions for 2,070 yards and 16 touchdowns (including bowl games). As a junior, Dykes set school records with 61 receptions for 978 yards and eight TDs in the regular season.

"He's obviously a rare combination of size, speed and ability," Cowboys Coach Pat Jones said. "A guy that big isn't supposed to run so good, be such a great leaper and have such outstanding hand-eye coordination. He has immense hands, and he's also highly intelligent. He's just a natural winner."

Dykes needs only 22 receptions, 458 yards and 13 touchdowns to set Big Eight career receiving records (which do not include bowl games) in those categories. He also needs, or at least wants, national

recognition. Dykes is a two-time All-Big Eight pick but has yet to earn All-America status, except for a spot on the Football News' third team last year.

"Why haven't I been an All-America? I really don't know how to respond to that," Dykes said. "Maybe I should ask you why.

"Sometimes that weighs on my mind. Even my mom asks me: 'I didn't see you on any All-America teams. What's the problem?' All I can say is that I've played to the best of my ability.

"Maybe people don't respect the Big Eight as a passing conference. That's the only conclusion I can come to. I caught 60 passes for 1,000 yards last year (1,050 in-

Continued

cluding 72 yards in the Sun Bowl), and that should make most All-America teams."

Said Jones: "There are a lot of great

receivers out there, so I guess that as much as anything is why Hart hasn't been an All-America. But if you talk to the pro people, they know how good he is. I don't think he's underrated regionally or by the pros, but maybe he is nationally to a degree."

Dykes hopes that won't be the case in 1988.

"If I get 1,000 yards again this year," he said, "there's no way I shouldn't make an All-America team. But I don't know. I'm startled. I try not to think about it, but I've only got one shot left." ■

Cal's Taylor gets ahead by using his

By ART SPANDER
San Francisco Examiner

Daryle Lamonica had a funny line about how much smarts it takes to play the most pivotal position in football.

"If you can count to 11," the former Oakland Raiders star said, "you'll have no trouble playing football. Count to 22 and you can play quarterback."

Not everyone who spends much of their time taking snaps would agree with that simplified assessment. Some quarterbacks get by with a minimum of intelligence and an abundance of God-given talent, but others achieve success by outsmarting the opposition as often as not.

That's Troy Taylor. The junior quarterback at California can be physical, but the best part of his game is cerebral. And he has just enough gall to bring it off.

"I've been preparing myself for this stage of my life for a long time," said Taylor, a 6-foot-4, 185-pounder whose blond hair and lean features are reminiscent of a young Donald Sutherland. "Since the fourth grade I've had an intense desire to know as much as I could about football. I remember going to libraries and reading about defenses. I'd sit in the corners of bookstores—the clerks getting mad at me—and study the magazines and books. I was calling audibles in the sixth grade."

The studious habits paid off as Taylor went on to star at Cordova High School near Sacramento, where he led his senior team to a 14-0 record in 1985. If all went according to the family plan, Taylor would wind up quarterbacking at Southern California. Taylor's father, who had grown up in the Los Angeles area and briefly played quarterback in junior college, had a soft spot in his heart for the Trojans.

"My dad was a real USC fan, which is why I'm named Troy," the son said. "As a kid I had SC hats and pennants and everything."

But USC pursued Taylor only halfheartedly and the Trojans missed out on Troy, who opted for the Golden Bears.

"I came to Cal for a lot of reasons," he said. "It's great academically. It's 90 miles from home. And I thought I could take part in building a program that hadn't been established."

Cal football had been around for more than a century when Taylor came along, but its winning tradition was ancient his-

tory. Taylor hasn't changed that yet—the Bears have won a total of five games in his first two years—but he's working on it.

"It won't be long," said Taylor, who has emerged as one of the top quarterbacks in the country. "I know it's coming. We'll be winning games we used to lose."

One key would be to keep Taylor healthy all season. As a freshman in 1986, a season he was expected to redshirt, Taylor was summoned to duty and started six games. He completed 57.5 percent of his passes for 891 yards before breaking his jaw against USC in the season's next to last game. Then as a sophomore last year, Taylor broke a finger and missed the Bears' last two games.

Despite playing in only nine games in 1987, Taylor threw 18 touchdown passes, breaking the school record of 14 held jointly by Craig Morton, Joe Roth and Rich Campbell. He also completed 169 of 278 passes (60.8 percent) for 2,081 yards, placing him 14th in Division I-A in passing efficiency. He showed good arm strength and mobility—half of his TD passes were thrown while scrambling or rolling out—not to mention tre-

mendous instincts and savvy.

"Troy's arm is strong enough," Cal Coach Bruce Snyder said. "He's not a Steve Bartkowski or Jim Everett. He's not a real big guy. But he has great balance. And he's tough, very tough."

Indeed, Taylor threw a touchdown pass against Arizona State last year after fracturing his finger on a Sun Devil's helmet. He had to leave the game when the finger went numb a few minutes later, but by that time his 21-of-27 passing for 281 yards and three TDs had put the Bears on top, 28-0. Cal held that lead but struggled badly in the last two games as Taylor sat on the sideline. He clearly was the key to the Bears' offense.

"I think Troy will be one of the three best in the Pac-10, along with Troy Aikman at UCLA and Rodney Peete at USC," Snyder said. "Troy should have as much effect, or maybe a greater effect, on our team as Dan Fouts did at Oregon." ■



California quarterback Troy Taylor has good arm strength and mobility, not to mention tremendous instincts and savvy.

Had Enough?



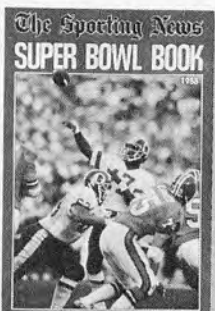
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TRANSFER

Trace Armstrong has learned that life isn't always fair—especially when you're dealing with the NCAA

By TOM WHEATLEY
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

The last thing Trace Armstrong wanted was to leave Arizona State before his last year of football eligibility.

But because of an NCAA ruling, Armstrong, a starting defensive tackle for the Sun Devils last year, had to do just that if he wanted to pursue his goal of a professional football career.

So, Armstrong will be cracking heads for Florida this season. He is hoping he'll have more success than he did after four years of butting heads with the NCAA.

Armstrong's sad story seems to be a case of the NCAA applying the letter of the law without tempering it with some common sense and common empathy for the young man caught in the middle.

It also is a case of a young man being unable to plead his own case to the NCAA, because any such appeal must come through his school. And as one source at Arizona State said, "I don't know how hard we fought for Trace."

It's difficult, though, to pass judgment. The parties involved can't seem to agree on the facts of this convoluted case. Here is what appears to have happened to this 6-foot-5, 262-pound student/athlete.

The problem had academic roots from Armstrong's days at John Carroll High School in Birmingham, Ala.

"It was a Catholic high school with a sliding grade scale," Armstrong said. "We had different weights for different courses."

He thought his grade-point average was over the 2.0 (C) level needed to be eligible at Arizona State. He later found out that the actual computation was a 1.987. He said he scored 27 on his ACT—a whopping total by the standards that would later come with Proposition 48. But falling short by 13 thousandths of a point on his GPA eventually did him in.

"What it boiled down to was one grade difference in high school," Armstrong

Continued on page 150

To pursue his goal of a pro career, Trace Armstrong had no choice but to leave Arizona State.



TRAVAILS.....S

The college experience hasn't exactly been all fun and games for Jeff George and Marc Hicks

By TOM WHEATLEY
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

In what may be a trend in the making, big-time football standouts have been trying to see if the artificial turf is greener on the other side of the fence.

For years, the brunt of Division I-A football transfers were within the team—from offense to defense or vice versa. Name players often switched positions, but seldom switched teams.

That may be changing. In the last year, two big-name players—quarterback Jeff George and running back Marc Hicks—have switched their allegiance. George abandoned Purdue after his freshman year for Illinois, while Hicks left California after his sophomore year for Ohio State.

Both players departed after the coaches who had recruited them were fired. In a double irony, both players watched in disbelief as the coaches who had recruited them to their new schools also were shot out from under them before their new eligibility began.

The similarities between George and Hicks end there. George is on track with the “new” new regime at Illinois. Hicks, entangled in an academic snarl, may never suit up for Ohio State.

Their stories highlight the pitfalls that lie in ambush for even the most careful of transfers.

★ ★ ★

Jeff George was, by acclamation, the top high school football player in the country in 1985.

George was a three-year starter at Indianapolis' Warren Central High School, a two-time state champion. In his prep career, he completed 543 of 965 passes for 8,126 yards, 94 touchdowns and 33 interceptions. He also was a basketball standout and hit .476 as a senior on Warren Central's 30-2 baseball team.

The highly sought quarterback chose Purdue because of coach Leon Burtnett and his knowledge of the passing game.

Continued on page 148

Marc Hicks, entangled in an academic snarl, may never suit up on a game day for Ohio State.



TRAVAIL...S

George also wanted to stay close to home so his family could watch him play.

George started six games as a freshman in 1986, but both he and the Boiler-makers took a pounding in a 3-8 season. He completed 122 of 227 passes for 1,217 yards but threw for only four touchdowns and was intercepted 15 times.

After the season, Burnett was fired and replaced by former Texas coach Fred Akers.

"They said they were going to get a passing coach, and then they hired Coach Akers," the 6-foot-3, 210-pound George said. "They thought they hired the right guy. I just didn't think he could teach me a passing philosophy."

George began shopping for a new school with a high-tech passing coach. He settled first on Miami (Fla.), then reversed his field to Illinois and passing guru Mike White.

Because of a Big Ten Conference rule designed to hinder fraternal raiding parties, transfers within the league cannot receive athletic scholarships. So one of the top young quarterbacks in the country had to pay to play at Illinois.

George sat out the 1987 season, as required by the NCAA. He will be a third-year sophomore in 1988. But he won't be doing it for White, who was forced to resign over the winter when another set in a series of NCAA violations came to light.

Enter former Kansas City Chiefs coach John Mackovic. After just one season of varsity football, George is already on his third head coach.

George is happy with his situation. But his college experience hasn't exactly been what he envisioned when he left high school two years ago.

"I think it's wrong if a kid comes out of high school and the coach gets fired, and he has to switch schools and ends up paying for it, like I did," George said. "Every move I made, I had to call the NCAA to make sure I wasn't violating any rules. It's a big business."

He has no regrets about going to Purdue and then leaving.

"In high school, I'd choose Purdue all over again with coach Burnett," he said. "When I said I was leaving for Miami, that was a hasty decision. It's a good school and all that, and I thought Coach Jimmy Johnson was a great person. But there were things about the school I just didn't like."

He denied—as he has from the start—that he reneged on Miami because the Hurricanes recruited a top high school quarterback, Craig Erickson. One factor, he said, was Miami's distance from home and from the Big Ten Conference. The reaction of angry Boiler-maker fans to his announced departure got George's competitive blood boiling, too.

"They'd interview fans on the radio and TV and they'd say, 'He's going to Miami just to run away from the problems,'"



George said.

He also noticed that the campus bookstore started carrying T-shirts with his jersey number 12 and a slash through it, an unsubtle gesture of good riddance. Demand was so heavy that when George went in to buy one, the clerk said they were sold out.

George is serious about making his detractors wish they had kept quiet.

"Come to the Purdue game," he advised. The game is at Champaign this season, but George is especially looking forward to 1989, when the Illini play at Purdue.

He still has his sense of humor. The Purdue bookstore added a new item: A shirt with David Letterman's "Top Lies of the Year."

"Number one was, 'We Want Jeff George Back,'" said George, laughing. "I bought me one. Hopefully one day I can show my kids and my grandkids."

As with his choice of Purdue, George chose Illinois because of his rapport with the coach.

"I just thought it would be right for me at Illinois," George said. "I was already good friends with coach White. When I was being recruited in high school, he was the first guy at my doorstep at 7:30 in the morning."

"When we all talked it over at home, we just decided the money wasn't a factor. We were hoping it would pay off in the long run. But it's crazy. I was on top of the world coming to Purdue. I was getting everything paid for. When I got here to Illinois, I had to pay out-of-state tuition and get in line with all the other walk-ons for practice."

He came to Illinois at his own expense specifically to play for White, the master of the pass. So George was startled, to say the least, when White was forced out last winter.

"The night that he resigned, it was kind of a shock," George recalled. "I said, 'No way!' It was just a shock. I remember I



After just one season of varsity football, quarterback Jeff George is already on his third head coach.

told my parents, 'Maybe it'll all work out.' But I thought, 'What else could go wrong?'

"I love it at Illinois. Coach Mackovic is great. I'm the happiest guy on the block now. But I really had no choice. I had to stay."

To transfer again to another major college would mean another year on the sidelines, as per NCAA rules. This time, it would cost him a year of eligibility because another NCAA rule states that an athlete must finish his eligibility in five years. That would have left him with just two years to play at a Division I-A school.

"If they'd have brought in a wishbone coach, I'd have been stuck," George said. "I don't know what I'd do then. Personally, I'd like to see the NCAA change it."

Only athletes are required to sit out a year when they transfer. Coaches, athletic directors and college presidents can bounce from school to school as often as their contracts permit.

"I'd like to see the players have a choice in whether they stay or not," George said.

He does not recommend transferring, except in drastic circumstances.

"Being a quarterback, I think, it's the right thing to do," George said. "But at another position, I don't think it's worth it. Going through everything I went through, it's definitely not worth it."

"It's really a scary feeling. If you can stay, you should stay."

★ ★ ★

George had no problems academically with his switch. Marc Hicks, on the other hand, has had nothing but academic problems at Ohio State. And unless he wins a longshot appeal after this summer quarter, he probably will leave for a Division III school.

"I'm OK, grade-point-wise," said Hicks, a 6-2, 220-pounder. "It's hours-wise that I'm getting killed."

Hicks did not check—and apparently nobody at Ohio State checked, either—to see how many



If ruled ineligible, Hicks may be running and punting for a Division II or Division III school this fall.

of his credit hours at Cal would transfer with him. The answer, Hicks found out, is not many.

"It's really whammied me," Hicks said. "You wouldn't believe how many hours they took away from me. I've been taking about 20 hours a quarter. I'm taking 22 now. I took 25 last summer and 20 a quarter from fall and winter."

"There's no margin for error. It really stinks. I won't be able to play this fall because I'm still going to be short. The only way is that I'm supposed to meet with the revision board after the summer quarter and kind of plead my way in."

Meanwhile, Hicks said, "they took me off scholarship last summer. I had a 1.99 GPA (with 2.0 a C average). I had to take out a loan and had to get a job here. I'm a bartender at a bar, making minimum wage. I did it all fall and all spring and I'm still doing it."

If that Ohio State board accepts his plea, Hicks will be a fourth-year junior this fall. But if the board turns thumbs down, Hicks would be ineligible. Because he had to sit out last season after transferring from Cal, a second transfer to a major college would require his second straight year on the sidelines and leave him with just one year of eligibility remaining in 1989.

"It's scary," Hicks said. "I'd only have one year to prove myself to the scouts. I'm going to be real rusty. You're not used to getting hit. Playing catch with your friends in the street is not the same as major college football. Playing flag football is not the same."

"It's hard. Even looking at the films is not the same as being with the Buckeyes."

He realizes that he may never suit up on a game day for Ohio State.

"If they say I'm ineligible, I could transfer to Division II or Division III and play this fall," Hicks said.



That situation would be less than ideal because pro scouts favor runners who do their thing against big-time defenses.

"I'd just have to hope people would remember me," Hicks said. "That's what I'd have to bank on."

Hicks still has the size, speed and hands that made him one of the top high school running backs in the country in 1984 at Davis (Calif.) High School. But his industrial-strength courseload this spring limited him to just weekend duty at Ohio State's spring drills.

"Transferring really stinks," Hicks said. "I'm getting the worst of two worlds—in school, and not being able to play the sport I love, too. I'm getting nailed, and I don't think it's fair. I can't help that the courses I took out there at Cal weren't up to par for OSU. I took my English and my other subjects. And now I'm this far behind."

Hicks was well ahead of the pack as a prep star in Davis, which is near Sacramento and just a 45-minute drive from Berkeley. He was a Parade All-America after rushing 170 times for 1,220 yards and 14 touchdowns as a senior. Like George, Hicks was a superior all-around athlete. He was a standout basketball player, long jumper and baseball player who was drafted by the Minnesota Twins in 1985.

Ohio State, Nebraska, Penn State and Washington all wanted Hicks to play football for them, with Penn State Coach Joe Paterno calling him "the top running back to come out of high school in the last five years."

As a freshman in 1985 for coach Joe Kapp, Hicks made a big splash. He was the Bears' No. 2 rusher with 106 carries

for 538 yards and two touchdowns. He also caught 19 passes for 311 yards and three TDs and punted 27 times for a 36.9-yard average, with 10 punts landing inside the 20-yard line.

As a sophomore in 1986, Hicks led the Bears in rushing (98 carries for 357 yards and one score) and was second in receiving (34 catches for 345 yards and two TDs). But he was fumble-prone and finally lost his starting job to Chris Richards. Hicks also had academic problems, as the few transferable hours on his transcript indicate, and was at odds with Kapp.

"It was like chaos in my mind," Hicks said. "I liked coach Kapp as a person. I thought he was a decent coach. I don't think he was a great coach. And there were a lot of things going on with the coaching staff that only the players knew. I'd rather not say what they were."

Kapp was gone after a 2-9 season in 1986. He was replaced by Bruce Snyder, but Hicks did not wait to find out about the new regime, an impatience he does not regret.

"That program to me wasn't going where I thought it should be going," Hicks said. "And Ohio State always appealed to me."

Ohio State coach Earle Bruce "came out after the Rose Bowl that year (1985, while Hicks was still in high school), came right out to the house," Hicks said. "That appealed to me. He didn't say that I'd start. He said I'd have a chance to. That's all I wanted. Even at Berkeley, I never expected to start. I expected to earn my starting position."

But he never expected to be mired in academic quicksand at Ohio State. To make the situation murkier, Bruce was fired after last season. Fortunately, the new coach was John Cooper of Arizona State, a Pacific-10 Conference rival of Cal and an eyewitness to Hicks' talent.

As for Hicks, he knows a lot more about the hazards of transferring.

"I'm worried 24 hours a day whether I'll be playing football and whether I have to go to this class or that class," Hicks said. "It does play games with your head."

There is no foolproof checklist for athletes who insist on transferring. But Hicks has these suggestions:

- "Definitely investigate. Talk to the school people, the academic advisers, and not just the coaches."
- "Before you make a decision, consider your options."
- "Make sure you really talk to your parents."
- "You've got to be careful. I was careful, and I got hurt anyhow."
- "Athletes should know there's absolutely nothing wrong with transferring. Nothing. But you could get caught in a double whammy. You might think a school fits you, and it doesn't."

You might be sadder but wiser, like Marc Hicks. Or you might be happier and wiser, like Jeff George.

And with the time limits imposed by the NCAA, it's going to be one or the other. It's not likely you will get a second chance. ■

said. "That's what kills me. If I had gone to a public school and taken driver's ed or home ec or shop, I'd have been fine. But I took calculus, four years of Latin, four years of a science, four years of English."

"Other guys who didn't take those kind of courses graduated with a 3.0 average. It was just really confusing to me how they could say I wasn't academically eligible."

But Armstrong said he didn't know there was a problem when he began practicing as a freshman with Darryl Rogers' Sun Devils in 1984.

"If I had known, I could have gone to summer school," he said. "There were all kinds of options. But apparently a lot of correspondence went on between the NCAA and Arizona State without my knowledge that there was a problem."

His first notice that he had failed to bring a 2.0 high school GPA to Tempe came in September 1984, a month into practice. But the Sun Devil athletic department assured him that the matter would work itself out.

"Everybody kept saying: 'It'll be any day now. It'll be fine.'" Armstrong recalled. "And then one day, it wasn't fine."

In mid-October, he got a note saying he was academically ineligible. Actually, he found out when he tried to cash a check at the student union.

"They said I couldn't because I owed \$3,800," Armstrong said. "They had taken my scholarship back and said I had to pay back all the benefits and that I had 10 days to do it in."

"I was fortunate that my parents could cover it. But still, there I was, 2,000 miles away from home. I was ineligible. I could not practice. I had no training table. All I could do was go to the weight room."

"I think the coaches made a real effort to help me, but there wasn't anything they could do."

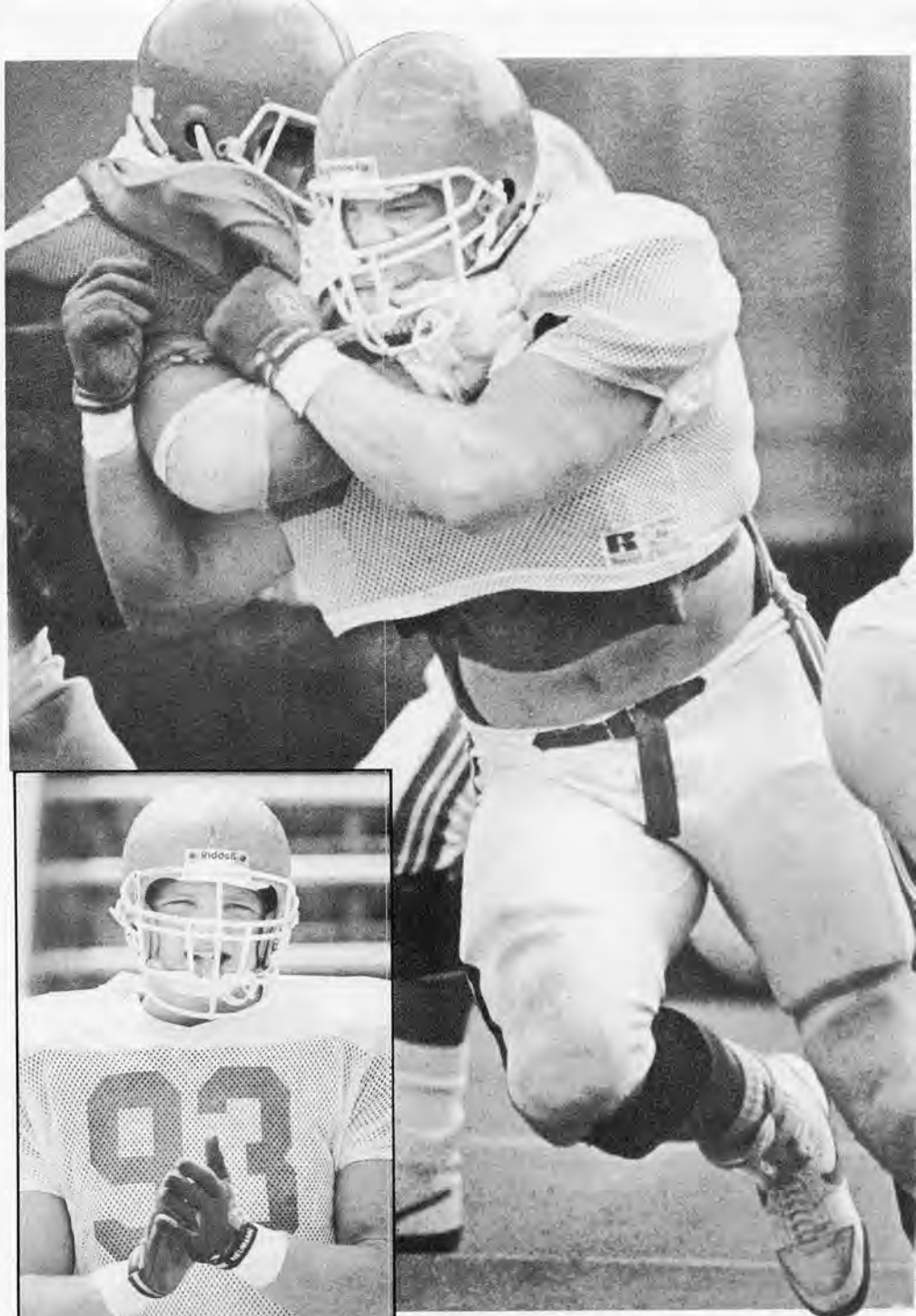
Then Rogers left to coach the Detroit Lions after the 1984 season, and the onus of Armstrong's defense fell on the athletic department.

"I don't want to get into anything inflammatory," said Armstrong, who clearly felt that he was cut loose by Arizona State in the early stages of the ordeal. "By the time for my reinstatement hearing with the NCAA, the entire cast of characters had changed. We had a new athletic director, a new head coach, a new faculty representative."

"The NCAA took everything in and decided that because I was an ineligible player and had practiced past the two-week period at the start of the season, they would penalize me one year of eligibility if I stayed at ASU."

"I hadn't played that year, but I would only have three more years if I stayed there. Or, I'd have four years at another institution."

Armstrong thought the penalty was harsh. He hadn't known there was a prob-



Although he likely will start at defensive tackle for Florida this fall, Armstrong remains bitter over his battle with the NCAA.

lem. He was doing well in school. And he hadn't played in a game because he was a candidate to be redshirted.

"It was a mystery to me," said Armstrong, a psychology major. "I think the NCAA thought I knew that I wasn't a qualifier all along and that ASU and I were trying to pull a fast one. You have to remember, football had just come off probation at ASU. (Several other sports) were still on probation. ... I think telling me to transfer was the NCAA's way of penalizing Arizona State, supposedly without penalizing me. Which is kind of ridiculous."

He believes that something else was working against him at his reinstatement hearing with the NCAA.

"My parents got an attorney," Armstrong said. "I think that kind of bristled the NCAA. They don't like things to go into public courts."

Janet Justus, the NCAA's assistant director of eligibility, did not handle Armstrong's case. But she is familiar with it.

"He was a partial qualifier," she said. "He should not have practiced. He was not eligible for collegiate athletics that year. He could at that time have transferred, and he did not do that."

It seemed to Armstrong that the NCAA, an organization supposedly concerned about the academic health of its student/athletes, had a rather cavalier attitude about transferring.

"And it was right before summer

camp," he said. "Who was going to take me, a guy who hadn't played for a year?"

He did have the option of appealing for a fourth year at Arizona State "if I could show some new evidence that anything was wrong," he said. He decided to pursue an appeal, although it took Arizona State two years to present it, a delay not lost on the NCAA.

"It seems like it was going on forever and ever," Justus said. "Then last year he tried to resurrect the issue, which he did."

Justus wondered what took Arizona State so long to appeal. So does Armstrong.

"I was the only person involved with the whole process who was there from the beginning," he said. "The NCAA eligibility committee had changed. We were on our third faculty rep at Arizona State. We went through a couple of assistant athletic directors who were supposedly handling my case."

Each new official had to plow through the growing pile of documents and correspondence in the case.

"I had to keep breaking them in," Armstrong said. "The appeals just weren't fielded very well. We kept trying to appeal the qualifier issue. Then we found out that it was a dead issue with the NCAA. The NCAA did concede that I was a qualifier, but because I had practiced while my eligibility was in question, I was being penalized a year."

Not so, Justus said. She said that Armstrong was penalized precisely because he was *not* a qualifier. He was out because, Latin and calculus aside, he did not have a 2.0 high school GPA. And if he had been found to be a qualifier, Justus said, he would never have been penalized just for practicing while the issue was in question.

Armstrong finally got "a lot of help" from Sun Devils compliance coordinator Bill Bryant. "He stayed up a lot of nights working on this case," Armstrong said.

By the winter of 1987, with two seasons

of part-time starting duty under his belt after sitting out the '84 campaign, Armstrong thought Arizona State was ready to present his appeal. He was anxious for a decision before the 1987 season so he could tell the pro scouts whether he was a junior or a senior. But the school decided not to proceed immediately.

"They said the timing wasn't right because Southern Methodist had just gotten the death penalty from the NCAA," Armstrong said, referring to the temporary suspension of the SMU football program due to repeated NCAA rules violations.

By the time Arizona State made its formal appeal on Armstrong's behalf, the '87 season—his fourth in Tempe and his first as a full-time starter—was well under way. When the scouts came by to watch Armstrong, who was on his way to a 46-tackle, seven-sack season, he gambled that the NCAA would decide in his favor, telling them that he was just a junior with another year of eligibility at Arizona State.

"I thought that anybody who would just sit down and look at this objectively would see that I was just a bystander and innocent," he said.

Armstrong figured that he would be allowed to play one more year, and he was—but only if he left Arizona State, where he had been expected to be the Sun Devils' best defensive player and the media guide coverboy in 1988. So, a controversy that had started over a question of academic competence was to be resolved in his favor only if he transferred to another university just as he was on the verge of earning his degree.

The irony of that dilemma did not escape Armstrong, who was getting quite an education—although not the one he had bargained on four years before.

"Every day of my college life I had to wake up and think what was going to happen to me that day, the next day, the next week," he said. "I never really controlled my future. Every time I thought about this

thing, I got a stomachache.

"I learned one thing above all things: Life isn't always fair. And you never quit paying for one mistake. I developed a tough skin. I mean, here I'm getting ready to play my last few games of the season at ASU, and I don't know if I'm a junior or a senior. The scouts don't know. Needless to say, it affected me."

The NCAA denied his appeal to play one more season in Tempe early last December.

"Finals are coming up, I'm preparing for the Freedom Bowl, and they tell me, 'Trace, if you want to play next year, you have to be enrolled at another university by January,'" he recalled. "I wanted to be fair to my teammates, and also take exams, and also find another school. Time was just flying by. I had to pack up and move all this stuff."

"I was eligible to take five official visits, but I only had time to visit Georgia and Florida. Florida made some exceptions with credits they would accept. I'll be finished next spring."

The long fight over an academic issue ended up hurting him academically.

"I tried to pull myself together and do well," he said. "I managed to stay in school and be a pretty good student. But sometimes, my grades just went down the tube. It's kind of hard to find motivation to do this. I was spending a lot of time on my appeal. There were all kinds of depositions to be gathered, things like that."

"It's been damaging to me, and I'll always be bitter. Your last year at a university, that's what it's all about. Those memories. And they took that away from me. I'm really bitter."

"There are things I should have done differently. The people at ASU said, 'Let's keep this out of the papers.' But in 1984, I should have contacted the American Civil Liberties Union, you guys at The Sporting News, Sports Illustrated, somebody to really apply the pressure."

"Because the NCAA didn't really consider me, the individual. I was just a name on a piece of paper. I think the NCAA had some prejudices—against ASU because of the sports on probation, and possibly me because I got a lawyer and they thought I was a troublemaker."

"Really, the individual is lost. And I think that's a shame. That's a crime. Look at me. I'm on the other side of the country. I'm a senior and I don't know anybody here at Florida. They don't know why I'm here. They think I flunked out or got into some kind of trouble."

The NCAA may not have heard the last of Trace Armstrong, who had a great spring practice in Gainesville and will start for the Gators this fall. He's a man on a mission.

"That's almost how I visualize it," he said. "I just disagree with so many of their tactics. I've got a lot of ideas. I'm an idealist. It seems like my entire life, I've been an underdog."

"And I think the day I'm not an underdog anymore, big things are going to happen for me."

Instead of happening to him. ■

TOP TRANSFERS

Following is an alphabetical listing of 20 transfers who likely will make immediate contributions in their new programs.

Name	Pos.	Class	Old School	New School
Trace Armstrong	DT	Senior	Arizona State	Florida
Shane Curry	DE	Soph.	Georgia Tech	Miami (Fla.)
T.J. Edwards	RB	Soph.	Duke	Georgia Tech
Jeff George	QB	Soph.	Purdue	Illinois
Octavius Gould	RB	Soph.	Florida	Minnesota
Marc Hicks	RB	Junior	California	Ohio State
Doug Jacobs	DT	Soph.	South Carolina	Mississippi
Greg Jones	QB	Soph.	Miami (Fla.)	West Virginia
Jerry Leggett	LB	Senior	Mississippi State	Fullerton State
Robert Lewis	WR	Senior	Arizona State	San Jose State
Donnie Maloney	RB	Senior	Oklahoma	Tulsa
Robert McDade	LB	Junior	Southern Methodist	Houston
Gary McIntosh	QB	Soph.	Maryland	Navy
A.J. Miller	LB	Junior	Southern Methodist	Missouri
Browning Nagle	QB	Soph.	West Virginia	Louisville
Rob Nuttle	QB	Junior	Maryland	Louisville
Chris Osgood	QB	Junior	Mississippi	Texas A&M
Bobby Sign	C	Senior	Pittsburgh	Baylor
Darrin Tribb	LB	Soph.	Iowa State	Purdue
Terry Walker	LB	Junior	Missouri	Air Force



Opponents are wise to steer their offenses in the opposite direction of Auburn defensive tackle Tracy Rocker.

DOWN AND DIRTY AT AUBURN

By KEVIN SCARBINSKY
Birmingham News

They are a peculiar sight on the Auburn practice field, this small group of large football players. Some days there may be only five in their number. It would be rare to find as many as eight or nine.

They wear white, signifying they are defensive players, but these uniforms have as much chance of staying that color as Auburn has of keeping its Avis perspective on football—No. 2 and trying harder—in this state and in the Southeastern Conference. Largely because these defensive linemen get down and dirty, the Tigers won the 1987 SEC title and have been one of the top defensive units in the country two years running.

Since Pat Dye took over as coach before the 1981 season, two positions have become the elite places to play. Tailback has produced the likes of Bo Jackson and Brent Fullwood, but the bloodline of backs is growing thin, as evidenced by Auburn's last-place finish in rushing in the league a year ago.

The other glamour spot may be the least glamorous spot on the field—the defensive line. This is the small group of big men who work in one corner of the practice field during "individual enrichment" sessions. This is the group that spends most of its time during a three-hour practice on all fours. This is the group that regularly whips the offensive linemen in end-of-practice, one-on-one, pass-rushing drills.

This is the group that has had all but one of its senior starters over the last

seven years named to at least one all-conference team. This is the group that had five players on National Football League rosters last season.

This is the group that ain't seen nothin' yet. When noseguard Benji Roland and tackles Tracy Rocker and Ron Stallworth line up in the season opener against Kentucky, they will carry the weight of the past with them along with a new burden: a reputation as the country's best defensive front.

"You have to start with our three down linemen defensively," Dye said. "They're three potential all-star players."

You have to start with the 6-foot-3, 258-pound Rocker, the senior left tackle who was a finalist for the Lombardi Award last year even though he was injured in the ninth game and missed the rest of the season.

If Rocker recovers from off-season knee surgery—and doctors indicated at the end of spring practice, which he sat out, that his progress was on schedule—and continues his five-year progression on the field, he may be, as Dye calls him, "the premier defensive lineman in the country."

As a second-year freshman in 1985, Rocker led Auburn and all SEC down linemen with 93 tackles despite not becoming a starter until midway through the season. As a sophomore he had 86 tackles and was named to the all-conference team.

Last season, which was interrupted on the last play against Florida State when he went down with the knee injury, Rocker reached consensus All-America status. He was the only junior among the four

Lombardi Award finalists in a season that ended with 75 tackles. That his overall numbers were down was a tribute to opponents steering their offenses in the opposite direction.

His dominant ability came out in a nail-biting, 20-10 victory over Georgia Tech. Rocker made 20 tackles, three sacks and one tackle behind the line of scrimmage and caused two fumbles that day. According to Auburn's system for grading defensive players, Rocker earned 75 bonus points, the most since Dye instituted the system in 1981.

"If there's a better lineman in the country," Dye said, "I haven't seen him. There's nothing Tracy can't do. He's big, strong and quick. He is a tremendous competitor and has great work habits. He doesn't have any limitations."

Defensive coordinator Wayne Hall, who also coaches the defensive line at Auburn, has been generally recognized as the reason behind the continued success of the Tigers' front three. One of his devices for strengthening his charges is, after a grueling workout, to have them throw a medicine ball around. They do this by lying toe-to-toe on incline benches and throwing and catching the ball in the form of sit-ups that might tear the stomach muscles of lesser mortals.

Hall, who weighs less than 200 pounds and played linebacker from 1971-73 at Alabama, often participates in this exercise with his players. His philosophy is simple: Work till you can't work anymore.

"You've got players with great talent who don't want to work hard, think they can get by on their talent," he said.

"Those are the guys who get hurt and miss practice and don't make it. Other guys don't have the talent but they work hard. Then you have guys with all the talent who push themselves. That's Tracy."

That, finally, has become Ron Stallworth, the right tackle. He arrived at Auburn at the same time as Rocker but with a bigger reputation, having been named Parade magazine and USA Today's high school defensive player of the year. In 1984, Stallworth was redshirted. In '85 he made nine tackles.

In '86 he split time at right tackle with Nate Hill, starting five games, and made 61 tackles. He was beginning to fulfill some of his 6-5, 258-pound promise when he suffered a severe knee injury on the first day of spring drills before the 1987 season. He missed the first two games last year while the knee healed.

When Rocker's season ended prematurely, Stallworth stepped in and started the final three games, including the Sugar Bowl tie against Syracuse. Against Alabama, in the game that won the SEC title for Auburn, he made 13 tackles and played, in Dye's estimation, "his best game ever."

Stallworth's injury "probably kept him from being an all-conference or All-America player," Dye said. "When he recovered and entered the starting lineup, he was outstanding. He's going to be a great player this fall."

"Great" has never been an adjective attached to the name of Benji Roland. The 6-4, 268-pound senior has simply been the solid center of the defensive line for three seasons. He played as a backup in every game as a true freshman in 1985. He has started the last two seasons, totaling 121 tackles, five sacks and 14 tackles for loss.

In 1987, with Stallworth missing time early and Rocker late, Roland held the line together as the Auburn defense gave up the fewest rushing yards and fewest points in the SEC. He led the team, which included No. 1 National Football League draft choice Aundray Bruce, in tackles for loss with seven.

Consider that Roland's competition at noseguard the last two years was Robert Goff, who was a fourth-round draft choice of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers this spring. Bucs Coach Ray Perkins said Goff was better than some linemen taken in the first and second rounds of the draft. But Goff could never beat out Roland for the starting job at Auburn.

"Benji's always played well," Dye said, "and in some games he's been great. He is in a position to become a genuine All-SEC player. I don't think there's a better noseguard in the league. He plugs up that middle for us."

If those three players alone are not enough to make Auburn's defensive front the best in the nation—and in Hall's system of rotation, they won't be—there are reinforcements. Another Rocker, Tracy's younger brother David, will be at one backup tackle spot to carry on the family and school tradition. David Rocker is a 6-4, 260-pound sophomore who got a taste of action last fall and, Dye said, "became



Clockwise from top left: Ron Stallworth, Tracy Rocker, Benji Roland, David Rocker and Fernando Horn.

DEFENSIVE LINES

1. AUBURN

Players: Fernando Horn, T; David Rocker, T; Tracy Rocker, T; Benji Roland, NG; Ron Stallworth, T; Jon Wilson, T.

Comment: The Rocker brothers are likely to cause numerous headaches along the way. Stallworth has unlimited potential and Roland can dominate.

2. MIAMI (FLA.)

Players: Shane Curry, E; Bill Hawkins, E; Jimmie Jones, T; Greg Mark, T; Eric Miller, E; Willie Peguese, E.

Comment: The addition of Curry assures the Hurricanes of having another menacing defensive front. Hawkins and Curry rank as the nation's best tandem.

3. MICHIGAN

Players: John Herrmann, T; Warde Manuel, T; Mark Messner, T; T.J. Osman, T/MG; Mike Teeter, MG; Brent White, T.

Comment: The Wolverines' front line rates among the deepest in the land. Messner dominated opponents much of last season. Osman is a future star.

4. TEXAS

Players: Bobby Duncum, E; Oscar Giles, E; Ken Hackemack, T; Steve Llewellyn, T; Mark Steed, E.

Comment: The combination of Hackemack and Llewellyn will play a major role in the Longhorns reaching the Cotton Bowl.

5. IOWA

Players: Tim Anderson, T; Mike Burke, E; Paul Glonek, T; Dave Haight, NT; Jeff Koeppel, T; Joe Mott, E; Sean Ridley, E.

Comment: The Hawkeyes' no-name defensive line will stand like a brick wall in the path of opponents. Haight and Mott rate with the best. Ridley is talented.

a man this spring."

After Rocker II the picture gets a little hazy. Unlike the last couple of years, Auburn will not enjoy experienced depth in the line this time around. Junior tackle Fernando Horn and redshirt freshman Jon Wilson, who moved from tight end to

defensive tackle in the spring, appear to have the best chance to join the playing rotation, which Hall said must include at least five players.

After all, the Rockers, Stallworth and Roland need somebody else to pass the medicine ball to. ■

A&M's Roper loves to powder quarterbacks

By KEVIN SHERRINGTON
Dallas Morning News

John Roper's wild, bloody reputation at linebacker took a powder last spring.

He was a baby sitter.

The senior didn't go to school at Texas A&M last spring and didn't play football. Instead, he took advantage of an NCAA rule that allows students making satisfactory academic progress and meeting other criteria to sit out one semester and remain eligible for the next season.

In Roper's case, he used the time off to baby-sit his daughter, Lauren Ashley, who was born five days after the Aggies beat Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl. He said he has taken well to his new role of powdering rear ends instead of quarterbacks.

"I'm very, very soft," he said, laughing.

Roper has never been accused of being soft. Crazy, yes. He also has been called the best linebacker in the Southwest Conference, an All-America and the jagged edge of the best group of linebackers in the country.

He had 104 tackles and 15 sacks last season, teaming with the Aggies' other outside linebacker, junior Aaron Wallace, for 27 sacks and a nickname: the Blitz Brothers.

"He has great instincts, he always knows where the ball is going to be," defensive coordinator R.C. Slocum said. "I've seen very few players who have as much influence in games. Lots of guys are good, but few are such a big factor."

Roper attracted attention on one of his sacks early last season when he hit Louisiana State quarterback Tom Hodson so hard, he dented his own face mask. The force of the blow also opened an inch-long gash between Roper's eyes, forcing him to retreat to the locker room for four stitches. He returned to the game, broke two stitches and needed three more after the game. Roper's only comment later was that he was sorry Hodson got up.

Senior Dana Batiste, who teams with senior Adam Bob as the two middle men in the Aggies' four-linebacker set, likes to say that Roper is crazy and that he should get help. The other linebackers laugh at Roper's ever-present sunglasses, the bat he sometimes carried in the dormitory and his reckless, all-out play in practice.

Roper has missed that this spring, even if the Aggie offense hasn't.

"It's been kind of tough," he said. "I



Clockwise from top left: Basil Jackson, Adam Bob, Dana Batiste, John Roper and Aaron Wallace.

LINEBACKERS

1. TEXAS A&M

Players: Dana Batiste, I; Adam Bob, I; Basil Jackson, I; Joe Johnson, I; Tim Landrum, O; Jeroy Robinson, O; John Roper, O; Aaron Wallace, O.

Comment: Combination of Roper and Wallace is without peer. The emergence of Bob and Batiste assures the Aggies a shot at a fourth straight Cotton Bowl.

2. WEST VIRGINIA

Players: Theron Ellis, O; Chris Haering, I; Dale Jackson, O; Eric Lester, I; Robert Pickett, O; Darnell Warren, I.

Comment: Few outside Morgantown are familiar with this group, but by season's end, that won't be the case. A mobile and nasty group.

3. AUBURN

Players: Steve Brown, I; Smokey Hodge, I; Craig Ogletree, O; Quentin Riggins, I; Lamar Rogers, I; Brian Smith, O.

Comment: Though the Tigers waved goodbye to the likes of Aundray Bruce and Kurt Crain, all is not lost. Brown and Ogletree can be as good.

4. NOTRE DAME

Players: Ned Bolcar, I; Darrell Gordon, O; Andre Jones, O; Scott Kowalkowski, O; Wes Pritchett, I; Frank Stams, O; Mike Stonebreaker, I.

Comment: The Irish have the finest group of inside linebackers in the nation. Kowalkowski and Jones are future stars.

5. UCLA

Players: Chance Johnson, I; Doug Kline, I; Carnell Lake, O; Marcus Patton, O; Billy Ray, O; Eric Smith, O.

Comment: The Bruins have a fine array of athletes. While these players will pester more than dominate, they'll be effective.

miss the contact, fighting, stuff like that."

Even though he couldn't practice with the team, Roper worked out regularly in the weight room last spring and is up to 235 pounds on a 6-foot-2 frame after playing last season at 218.

The 6-4, 230-pound Wallace has even more athletic ability than Roper, which is saying a lot. With proper work habits, Wallace could be as good.

Wallace and Batiste sat out spring prac-

tice to beef up their grades. Of the Aggies' four starting linebackers, only Bob was left to butt heads in the spring.

"And he was out there, cussing those guys because they weren't there," Slocum said.

If it was any consolation to Bob, Roper didn't like it, either. Fatherhood has not softened him, no matter what he says.

"I think I may be a little meaner," he said, "because I had a little girl." ■

Clemson's top-rated secondary can get even better

By BOB GILLESPIE
Columbia (S.C.) State

Clemson assistant coach Bill Oliver doesn't want to hear that he is in charge of the best defensive backfield in the nation in 1988.

True, the Tigers return all four backfield starters from the nation's fifth-ranked total defense in 1987, a crew that allowed just 160 yards passing per game and seven aerial touchdowns. True, Oliver has an influx of young backups who will push three of those starters. True, the starters alone have won 11 varsity letters, and they had 10 interceptions and 41 passes broken up in 1987.

All true. But Oliver can't help but be cautious. He vividly remembers one moment from Clemson's 9-2 1987 regular season: In the first half of a shocking 30-28 loss to North Carolina State, "the slowest receiver in the Atlantic Coast Conference (N.C. State's Mack Jones) beat Donnell deep," he said.

It was one of the few failures by All-ACC cornerback Donnell Woolford, but it reminded Oliver what can happen.

"We were a damned good defensive team," Oliver said, "and I'm expecting a lot out of them this year, too. But ... I know about complacency. All that (publicity) is nice, but you've got to earn it all.

"We've got kids who have deficiencies that they've got to work on between now and that first kickoff. Each individual is going to have to think and work on the little things, their top weaknesses. We're a long way from perfect."

Many teams, of course, would take Oliver's imperfections in a heartbeat. Most, for that matter, would just take Woolford and be happy. The 5-foot-10, 195-pound senior intercepted four passes and knocked down 14 more last year, and his interception in the end zone was a backbreaker for Penn State in the Tigers' 35-10 Florida Citrus Bowl victory.

"I don't want to slight any of the other players we've had over the years, but as far as making things happen, no one has done what Donnell has already accomplished," Coach Danny Ford said. "He's a special athlete who makes the big plays. None of our coaches would trade for any other defensive back we've had."

The rest of Clemson's secondary takes its cue from Woolford. Opposite him at cornerback is junior James Lott, who started every game as a sophomore.

"He's got a ways to go," Oliver said, "but he's got ability; he just needs to mature. He hurt us two or three times, but that happens. He should be a good one."

Gene Beasley has two years' starting experience at strong safety. While Beasley is not "a complete player," Oliver said, "he's made a lot of big plays for us."

Senior free safety Richard Smith, who started for the first time in 1987, sat out spring practice for surgery to repair a separated shoulder. Smith made his reputation as a hard hitter—"he'd knock the



Clockwise from top left: Bo Allen, coach Bill Oliver, James Lott, Arlington Nunn, Jerome Henderson, Donnell Woolford, Richard Smith and Gene Beasley.

DEFENSIVE BACKFIELDS

1. CLEMSON

Players: Bo Allen, S; Gene Beasley, S; Jerome Henderson, CB; James Lott, CB; Arlington Nunn, S/CB; Richard Smith, S; Donnell Woolford, CB.

Comment: Though not spectacular, these Tigers manage to shut down an opponent's passing game. Woolford is a leading Thorpe candidate.

2. BAYLOR

Players: Robert Blackmon, S; Norris Blount, CB; Ray Crockett, CB; Malcolm Frank, CB; Daniel Morgan, S; Mike Welch, S.

Comment: Blackmon and Welch have as much talent as former Bears Thomas Everett and Ron Francis. Crockett is among the most underrated.

3. ALABAMA

Players: Gene Jelks, CB; Kermit Kendrick, S; John Mangum, CB; Lee Ozmint, S; Mike Smith, S; Brian Stutson, CB.

Comment: This unit has superior athletes at each spot. Jelks made nice switch from tailback. Kendrick is a future pro, but Ozmint has the most potential.

4. FLORIDA STATE

Players: LeRoy Butler, S; Dedrick Dodge, S; Corian Freeman, CB; Deion Sanders, CB; Tracy Sanders, CB; Stan Shiver, S.

Comment: Having Deion Sanders alone in the secondary guarantees the Seminoles a lofty rating. Butler and Freeman are stars of the future.

5. SYRACUSE

Players: Jeff Buskirk, S; David Holmes, CB; Chris Ingram, CB; Jeff Mangram, S; Markus Paul, S; Sean Whiteman, CB.

Comment: This group progressed from average to superb throughout the course of last season. The starting four might be the best in the land.

Empire State Building down if you told him to," Oliver said—but Clemson coaches would like him to make sure he brings down the people he hits, as well as playing the deep pass better.

Behind the starters are three sophomores who will challenge for starting

time—Arlington Nunn, Jerome Henderson and Bo Allen.

"We teach them to be intelligently aggressive; that's the way they need to play as a group," Oliver said. "I want them to be poised and confident. To be really good, they need to be a little cocky." ■

UNIT RATINGS

Vitale anchors strong front wall for Wolverines

By STEVE KORNACKI
Ann Arbor News

John Vitale answers to a number of nicknames: Vi-Rock, J-Moe, Capt. Samurai, Vito, Johnny Rotten and Seal. One more should be added to the list: Mad Hatter.

Vitale, the All-Big Ten Conference center on a loaded Michigan offensive line, has a collection of 120 hats hanging from nails in his Ann Arbor apartment. There's a sombrero from the 1984 Holiday Bowl. Former Michigan teammate Mike Hammerstein supplied a Japan Bowl cap. Former high school teammate Keith Karpinski donated a Penn State cap. The Turner Broadcasting hat gets the most wear, but the blue corduroy BMW cap is worn for good luck.

"I pick one each day and like them all," he said.

Vitale is hoping to cap his college career with All-America honors this season.

"Vitale is not there yet," Wolverines Coach Bo Schembechler said. "But I told him in a meeting that he had the potential to be as great a center as we've had here. Now I want him to play that way."

Said Vitale: "Bo's right. I have more to accomplish and it's up to me. I've got to correct a lot of little things. I'm over-aggressive and miss picking up blocks on linebackers. You have to know when to use finesse. You have to choke your motor down and size 'em up."

Vitale, a starting guard as a redshirt freshman before being converted to center in 1986, anchors what The Sporting News ranks as the best offensive line in the country this year.

"We lost our most dominating player in (tackle) John Elliott," Michigan offensive coordinator Gary Moeller said. "But because everyone else is back, we still have a better line—that is, if everyone improves as expected."

The starting tackles this year likely will be senior Mike Husar, who earned All-Big Ten honors playing tackle and guard last fall, and sophomore Tom Dohring, who started six games. Redshirt freshman Greg Skrepenak is a solid backup.

Husar "is the mainstay," Moeller said, "and we need a big year from him. Husar's pretty strong but did not dominate people because he didn't play Elliott's position (strong tackle). We're still not sure if he will play the strong or quick side, but he should be done playing guard. That will



Clockwise from top left: Derrick Walker, Dave Chester, Greg Skrepenak, Tom Dohring, Jeff Brown, Michael Dames, John Vitale and Mike Husar.

OFFENSIVE LINES

1. MICHIGAN

Players: Jeff Brown, TE; Dave Chester, G; Michael Dames, G; Dean Dingman, G; Tom Dohring, T; Mike Husar, T; Greg Skrepenak, T; John Vitale, C.

Comment: With reserves as good as the starters, this unit will dominate. Husar and Vitale are All-America types; Dingman and Skrepenak are future stars.

2. OHIO STATE

Players: Karl Coles, T; Jeff Davidson, G; Jeff Ellis, TE; Tim Moxley, T; John Peterson, G; Joe Staysniak, T; Jeff Uhlenhake, C; Greg Zackeroff, G.

Comment: This group was beset by injuries in '87 but features numerous future pros. Impressive depth and experience.

3. FLORIDA STATE

Players: John Brown, G; Hayward Haynes, G; Joey Ionata, T; Jason Kuipers, G; Tom O'Malley, TE; Pat Tomberlin, T; Tony Yeomans, C.

Comment: Once a finesse unit, Tomberlin and company now destroy foes. When at his best, Tomberlin is the nation's best. Depth is questionable.

4. WEST VIRGINIA

Players: Kevin Koken, C; Bob Kovach, G; Jack Linn, T; Rick Phillips, T; Brian Smider, T; John Stroia, G; Keith Winn, TE; Dale Wolfley, G.

Comment: With improvement this season equal to last, this group might warrant a higher ranking. Most possess excellent size and quickness.

5. SYRACUSE

Players: Blake Bednarz, G; Pat Davis, TE; John Flannery, C; Rush Hodgins, T; Turnell Sims, T; Craig Stoeppel, T.

Comment: Flannery moves to center from guard. Stoeppel and Bednarz have All-America potential. Sims showed vast improvement last season.

help his consistency."

Dohring "was handicapped by a knee injury last year," Schembechler said. "All he needs is experience. He could be a good run or pass blocker but needs the minutes. Dohring will get the first shot at the tackle opening."

Seniors Michael Dames and Dave Chester are the returning starters at guard, with sophomore Dean Dingman figuring to see a lot of playing time.

"He (Chester) and Dames are so much alike," Moeller said. "They're good assignment kids. Both found their niche with

this team, and you can win with them."

Dingman could be a star of the future.

"Dingman has raw talent and is a block of a strong kid who hits you," Moeller said. "He's tough but needs size and maturity. He'll be powerful like John Elliott and Mark Hammerstein were here."

At tight end, senior Jeff Brown and junior Derrick Walker again will both see plenty of playing time. Like last year, Brown is expected to start.

"Sometimes Brown is the better blocker and Walker the better receiver," Moeller said. ■

Irish backfield is greater than sum of its parts

By KAREN HEISLER
Free-lance writer

How good is Notre Dame's offensive backfield?

It's so good that Coach Lou Holtz could permit himself the luxury of taking his top rusher from the last two seasons, senior Mark Green, and sticking him at flanker in spring practice. That position had belonged to Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown.

"I guess it's not too bad when you're in good enough shape to take him and move him somewhere else," Fighting Irish line-backer Ned Bolcar said.

It's so good that Holtz worked junior fullback Braxton Banks—who pairs with classmate Anthony Johnson to form a solid 1-2 punch at that spot—at tailback half the spring.

"We're not depending on just one person to get it done at any position," Johnson said. "People look at our backfield as a group effort. We don't have anyone with outstanding stats, but you add it all together and we were pretty productive last year (252.1 yards rushing per game, 14th in Division I-A)."

It's so good that just before the end of spring practice, Holtz could move Green back to tailback and insert sophomore tailback Ricky Watters at flanker without anyone missing a beat. And if anybody has second thoughts, Holtz can always switch them back.

"You look at our backfield and you talk potential," Watters said, "because everyone (except Green) just finished his freshman or sophomore year. But a lot of people saw glimpses of great things. We don't have anyone who'll have statistics like Tim (Brown) did, but that doesn't mean we don't have people who can play."

It's so good that even with the quarterback slot featuring two players who combined to throw eight interceptions and only two touchdown passes in seven starts in '87, the backfield as a whole still ranks as the best in the country.

"We don't have anybody in the Hall of Fame . . . but we've got kids with great work habits," backfield coach Jim Strong said.

The Irish have a double-barreled threat at each of the three backfield spots.

Tailback boasts the duo of Green and sophomore Tony Brooks. Green led the Irish in rushing with 861 yards last year, 406 the year before. Brooks has the necessary speed and moves, yet he's big enough (6-foot-2, 218 pounds) to knock a tackler down and run over him.

Fullback includes Johnson and Banks, who combined for 578 yards rushing last year. Johnson owns an amazing nose for the goal line; he scored four touchdowns on just six carries against Navy last year. He also was quick enough to start five games at tailback as a rookie in '86.

Quarterback features the option slants of junior Tony Rice and the pure pocket



Clockwise from top left: Mark Green, Ricky Watters, Kent Graham, Tony Brooks, Tony Rice, Anthony Johnson and Braxton Banks.

OFFENSIVE BACKFIELDS

1. NOTRE DAME

Players: Braxton Banks, FB; Tony Brooks, TB; Kent Graham, QB; Mark Green, TB/FL; Anthony Johnson, FB; Tony Rice, QB; Ricky Watters, FL/TB.

Comment: The Fighting Irish have assembled a backfield with potential second to none. Whether Watters or Green remains in the backfield, it's potent.

2. FLORIDA STATE

Players: Edgar Bennett, FB; Marion Butts, FB; Dexter Carter, TB; Chip Ferguson, QB; Sammie Smith, TB; Dayne Williams, FB; Peter Tom Willis, QB.

Comment: The Seminoles boast the finest tailback duo in the country with Smith and Carter. The fullbacks are pro types. Quarterback remains a question mark.

3. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Players: Jeff Brown, FB; Aaron Emanuel, FB; Ricky Ervins, TB; Leroy Holt, FB; Scott Lockwood, TB; Rodney Peete, QB; Steven Webster, TB.

Comment: Peete and Webster are the headliners. The emergence of Ervins and Lockwood and the return of Emanuel give the Trojans a solid backfield.

4. GEORGIA

Players: Alphonso Ellis, FB; Wayne Johnson, QB; Rodney Hampton, TB; Keith Henderson, FB; Tim Worley, TB.

Comment: With the addition of Henderson and Worley, the Bulldog backs rank with the best. Both Worley and Hampton have All-America potential.

5. MINNESOTA

Players: Marcus Evans, FB; Octavius Gould, FB/TB; Alan Holt, QB; Roselle Richardson, FB; Scott Schaffner, QB; Darrell Thompson, TB.

Comment: The presence of Thompson assures any backfield of a lofty ranking. Newcomers Gould and Schaffner make the Golden Gophers' even better.

passing of sophomore Kent Graham. Rice, who started six of the last seven games when Terry Andrysiak was felled for the season, rushed for 337 yards and seven TDs. His athleticism adds an extra dimension to Notre Dame's offense, but he must improve his passing.

All told, the backfield should be greater than the sum of its parts.

"What separates them is their unselfishness because we're not trying to feature any one player," Strong said. "And we've sold our kids on blocking, on playing without the football." ■

UNIT RATINGS

Texas Tech trio making a run for the Heisman

By KEVIN SHERRINGTON
Dallas Morning News

At this time of year, sports publicity offices near and far are dreaming up ways to promote their particular superstar for the Heisman Trophy. At Texas Tech, the Red Raiders are boosting their whole receiving corps.

Facetiously, of course. The Heisman goes to the best player in the country, not the best unit. But there is some logic in pushing for 5-foot-9 split end Eddy Anderson, 5-9 flanker Wayne Walker and 5-3, 135-pound flanker Tyrone Thurman to win the award together.

"They're too small to cross the street alone," Red Raiders Coach Spike Dykes said, "much less run for the Heisman alone."

Joe Hornaday, Texas Tech's sports information director, pooled their numbers and, in fun, has thought about pushing a mock "Smurfs for Heisman" campaign. Over the last three years, Anderson, Walker and Thurman have caught passes for 3,380 yards, rushed for 242 yards, returned kickoffs for 1,155 yards and returned punts for 1,186 yards.

The president of the Smurfs is Thurman, the smallest player in Division I-A. He caught 19 passes for 236 yards last year but is best known for his punt returns; he ran back 35 for 323 yards and one touchdown last year, and he needs only 195 yards to break the Southwest Conference career record.

Walker, who has covered 40 yards in 4.33 seconds, is the fastest of the three. The All-SWC pick caught 32 passes for 659 yards last fall, giving him a league-leading average of 20.6 yards per catch.

The best of the bunch, though, is Anderson. At 4.5 seconds in the 40 on a good day, he is no speed demon. But nobody in the league runs better routes or has better hands. He averaged 15 yards per catch (30 for 449 yards) in 1987, second in the league only to Walker.

"When I see the football," Anderson said, "that's all I think about. To be great, you've got to have great concentration. A lot of things can happen between the time the ball leaves the quarterback's hand and the time it hits yours, but you can't pay any attention to any of it."

"Some receivers do a lot of things well. My thing is, I catch the ball."

He caught it so well last year that he earned All-SWC honors despite playing in



Clockwise from top left: Eddy Anderson, Tyrone Thurman, Wayne Walker, Travis Price and Rodney Blackshear.

WIDE RECEIVERS

1. TEXAS TECH

Players: Eddy Anderson; Rodney Blackshear; Travis Price; Tyrone Thurman; Wayne Walker.

Comment: Anderson and Walker, albeit small, will continue their careers on Sundays in the fall of 1989. Thurman is an excellent kick returner.

2. MICHIGAN

Players: Chris Calloway; Dan Jokisch; John Kolesar; Greg McMurtry; Tripp Welbourne.

Comment: Kolesar is a clutch receiver. McMurtry can be spectacular at times. Calloway's forte is pass-blocking. Welbourne might switch to secondary.

3. AUBURN

Players: Greg Taylor; Laywer Tillman; Freddy Weygand; Alexander Wright.

Comment: While the Tigers must replace quarterback Jeff Burger, the new guy will be the envy of many a passer. Tillman might be the nation's best.

4. TEXAS

Players: Jorrick Battle; Keith Cash; Kerry Cash; Tony Jones; Bobby Lilljedahl; Kevin Nelson; Johnny Walker.

Comment: This group offers the Longhorns their most talented and deepest corps of receivers ever. Jones, Battle and Walker are honors candidates.

5. CALIFORNIA

Players: Rob Bimson; Vince Delgado; James Devers; Mike Ford; Michael Smith; Junior Tagaloa.

Comment: The Golden Bears have the nation's most underrated quarterback in Troy Taylor. Add Taylor to this group and the Bears might surprise a few.

the shadow of Walker, a flashier player. Anderson even loses some of the limelight to the tiny Thurman.

"They're a unique bunch of kids," Dykes said. "They're very unselfish and they block as well as they catch. That's not uncommon for a receiver, but it is for a whole group."

Dykes, who attributes their success to running precise routes and cutting sharply, said they have other talents as well.

On Anderson: "Eddy has great concen-

tration, good as anybody I've ever seen."

On Walker: "He's got a real afterburner. He's always got something left. I don't think he's ever gone all out."

On Thurman: "He's a short target, but he's really improved. Eddy's been a good influence on him."

Texas Tech quarterback Billy Joe Tolliver said he believes Anderson has what it takes to play professional football.

"Eddy could catch BBs in a hailstorm," Tolliver said. ■

SMALL-SCHOOL SUCCESS

William & Mary's Harry Mehre has become one of the most feared receivers in Division I-AA

By MIKE HARRIS
Richmond News Leader

Harry Mehre would have loved to have gone to a big-name school, but after getting a look at his scrawny 6-foot, 160-pound frame, they all turned him away—even if he did have some rather impressive bloodlines.

Harry Mehre played center for Knute Rockne at Notre Dame and went on to become a head coach at Georgia and Mississippi for many years. His grandson of the same name, who lived in Atlanta, was an observer at many a Georgia game as a youngster.

"I could very easily have been persuaded to go there," Mehre said.

Mehre is glad that he didn't. A guy his size might have been lost in the shuffle at Georgia, but he fit right in at William & Mary, where he has put on 20 pounds, progressed steadily and become one of the most feared receivers in Division I-AA.

"It's easy to see now that (going to Georgia) would have been wrong," the senior flanker said. "Their wideouts may catch 13 passes in a season for maybe 200 yards. I may not be anywhere near as good an athlete as those guys, but I'm working in a system with coaches who know how to get you open and get you the ball plenty of times.

"I've matured a lot physically. And I've learned so much technically."

Mehre sells himself short athletically. He was an all-metro quarterback at Riverwood High School in Atlanta. He is a good basketball player, a single-digit-handicap golfer and a former state prep champion in the long jump. And he is a skilled runner, which may be more important than his speed. He wastes no motion, making his speed deceptive—as many a defender has learned too late.

"My running style is different from what people are used to," Mehre said. "A lot of times it will appear I'm not running as hard as I am."

Mehre's speed (4.5 seconds over 40 yards) is good enough that he spent the spring competing on the Indians' track team. It was a good opportunity for him to improve his running skills even more.

"I wanted to concentrate on running well," he said.

As he prepares for his senior season, Mehre is perfecting his talents, which were much less apparent four years ago than they are now. In the meantime he has gone from a skinny project to a professional prospect.

"Scouts will look at him," William &

Mary Coach Jiminye Laycock said. "Some have already been through here. Harry has become much more physically committed to football. That's a reason I excused him from spring ball. I know he's taking care of himself. I think he's gained confidence and seen what can be in store for him."

Mehre was redshirted in 1984, his first year at William & Mary, but wasted little time thereafter making an impact. He had 34 receptions for 527 yards (15.5-yard average) and four touchdowns in his first active season in 1985. He followed that up with a strong sophomore campaign, making 47 catches for 781 yards (16.6 average) and seven TDs. Then as a junior he caught 40 passes for 765 yards and eight TDs, and his 19.1-yard average ranked seventh in I-AA.

Mehre needs just 190 yards in catches this season to become William & Mary's all-time leading receiver.

Mehre is one of those rare pleasures for a coach—a player who is effective even when he isn't involved in a particular play. William & Mary runs an "aerial ball-control offense," as Laycock calls it, in which the offensive backs are used often on "long handoff" plays and quick passes. The constant threat of Mehre, who needs the attention of more than one defender, is a key to that offense. He keeps opponents from loading up on the backs, who then are free to inflict some damage while Mehre is somewhere else.

"Mehre's presence is enough," James Madison Coach Joe Purzycki said.

Purzycki should know. James Madison had a much better team than William & Mary last year, going 9-2 in the regular season and advancing to the I-AA playoffs while the Tribe finished 5-6. But the Dukes, with one of the division's tougher defenses, struggled to a 28-22 victory, largely because of Mehre. He caught five passes for 99 yards and two touchdowns, one on a 57-yard pass on the Indians' first possession.

"You've got to cover him with 1½ men all the time," Purzycki said, "and it affects the overall soundness of your defense. It hurts your run support."

"No matter what, you've always got to have extra help on him. If you don't, he's going to hurt you. He does it in so many ways. He's got good hands."

"And he runs well in pads. So maybe it doesn't look like he runs fast. He can get behind you, that's all I know."

The talk of a possible pro career is a little mind-boggling to Mehre, an unassuming sort who thinks of himself as noth-



The constant threat of flanker Harry Mehre, who needs the attention of more than one defender, is the key to William & Mary's aerial ball-control offense.

ing special. But he isn't ignoring the talk. He spent the summer working on the few kinks in his game, reminding himself of the need to concentrate all the time. No more drops of catchable passes. No more imprecise routes.

Harry Mehre plans to go out with a bang, even if the pros don't call.

"I'd really, really like to try it," he said. "A pro career has so many things to offer. But I'm not going to get devastated if I find it is not my calling." ■

Princeton pins title hopes on Garrett brothers

By SCOTT PITONIAK
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

Now that Jason Garrett's days as a football nomad are over, Princeton fans can think seriously about winning the Ivy League title.

"I'm not going anyplace else," he promised last spring. "I'm staying put at Princeton."

Which is where the talented quarterback probably wishes he had remained all along.

After an outstanding season on Princeton's freshman team in 1984, Garrett transferred to Columbia, where his father, Jim, had just taken over as head coach. Jason had to sit out his sophomore season because of the transfer rule.

He quickly discovered that Columbia is not an easy place to be a spectator. Not only did the Lions continue their winless ways, but at the end of the season, Jason's dad was out as head coach.

"I really couldn't stay at Columbia because it would have been too awkward with what happened to my dad," Jason said. "I had to transfer somewhere. Princeton appealed to me because I was familiar with the school and I still had a lot of friends there."

He returned to the New Jersey college, even though it meant sitting out still another year.

Last season, after two autumns of football deprivation, Garrett finally returned to action. Remarkably, his arm showed no signs of rust as he completed 64.5 percent of his passes for 2,057 yards and eight touchdowns.

"It's like riding a bicycle," the 6-foot-1, 196-pound senior said. "Only it's the difference between riding around the block and riding in a race—everything is accelerated. Actually, I had done an awful lot of throwing with the scout teams those two years when I couldn't play in the games, so I wasn't totally rusty."

Jason was joined by older brother John and younger brother Judd in the Princeton starting lineup last fall. John, who graduated in May, was a split end who caught 45 passes for 617 yards. Judd, a halfback, led the team in rushing (822 yards), scoring (12 touchdowns) and was third in receiving (37 catches for 400 yards) as a sophomore last fall.

Both Jason and John believe Judd is the best athlete in the Garrett household.

"He's a natural," Jason said. "But please don't tell him I said so because his helmet won't fit if he hears that stuff."

PRINCETON

Coach: Steve Tosches (6-4, 1 year).
1987 Record: 4-3/T4th; 6-4 overall.
Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.
Key Losses: Jeff Baker, WR; Sean Brennan, S; Dean Cain, S; Josh Chambers, OG; John

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. PRINCETON

Led by the Garrett brothers, the Tigers will win their first title in 19 years.

2. HARVARD

The Crimson has the best program in the conference and will contend.

3. CORNELL

The Big Red continue to improve under Baughan's tutelage. Offense is the key.

4. YALE

As long as Cozza stalks the sideline in New Haven, the Eli will stay in the race.

5. PENNSYLVANIA

The Quakers dominated the league this decade but now face a rebuilding year.

6. BROWN

With improvement in a lot of places, the Bruins could win a few.

7. DARTMOUTH

The state of the Big Green remains in a state of flux. Could finish last.

8. COLUMBIA

The worst sports program in the nation. The Lions give the Big Green hope.

Garrett, SE; Rob Goodwin, K; Wit Hall, CB; Andy Johanni, OT; Pete Milano, LB; Jerry Santillo, FB; Mark Selhamer, OG; Bart Stoehr, DE; Matt Whalen, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Greg DiFelice, FB, 5-11/190, Sr.; Mark Rockefeller, TE, 6-3/225, Sr.; Jason Garrett, QB, 6-1/196, Sr.; Judd Garrett, HB, 6-2/205, Jr.; George Sarceovich, T, 6-5/275, Sr.; Bob Surace, C, 6-2/235, Jr. **Defense (5):** Rick Emery, E, 6-4/235, Jr.; Frank Leal, CB, 6-0/190, Jr.; Kevin Lynch, T, 6-1/260, Sr.; Franco Pagnanelli, LB, 6-0/240, Jr.; Rob Vanden Noyen, T, 6-2/245, Sr.

Key Returnees: Brian Carlson, LB, Soph.; Dennis Heidt, FB, Sr.; Mark Rockefeller, TE, Sr.; Dave Wix, WR/TB, Sr.

Top Newcomer: Mike Hirou, DB (JV).

Thanks in large part to the Garretts, Princeton enters the season as one of the favorites to win the 1988 Ivy title. That would be quite an accomplishment for the Tigers, whose 6-4 mark in '87 matched their best record of the decade.

"I just don't know if we're really in a position to challenge for a title," Coach Steve Tosches said. "I really think it's too early to say. We do have some good returning people in some key positions, but we also have an awful lot of question marks at some key positions."

The biggest holes are at wide receiver. Both starters—Garrett and All-Ivy selection Jeff Baker (42 catches for 647 yards)—have graduated, and none of the candidates to replace them has significant experience. Jason Garrett's only proven receivers are brother Judd out of the backfield and tight end Mark Rockefeller (21 catches last year).

With only center Bob Surace and tackle George Sarceovich returning up front, the

line is another question mark, although last year's backups saw a fair amount of playing time. The Garretts, Rockefeller and fullback Greg DiFelice, a converted halfback, give the Tigers enough talent to move the ball effectively.

The defense, which held opponents to 15.5 points per game last year despite injury problems, features five veteran starters. Heading that group are linebacker Franco Pagnanelli, the Tigers' leading tackler with 83; end Rick Emery, who led the team with 11 sacks, and cornerback Frank Leal. Both starting tackles, Rob Vanden Noyen and Kevin Lynch, also return.

Leal is the only returning starter in the secondary. The Tigers will be hard-pressed to replace free safety Dean Cain, an All-America who set a Division I-AA record with 12 interceptions.

Another key loss was All-Ivy placekicker Rob Goodwin, who was perfect on 10 field-goal attempts last year.

Help may come from Princeton's talented freshman team, which finished second last fall with a 5-1 record.

HARVARD

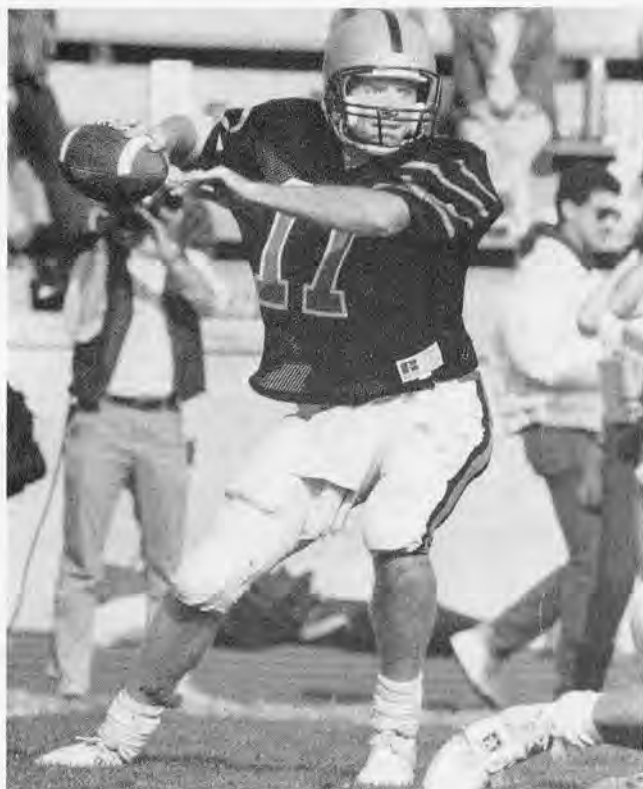
Coach: Joe Restic (95-60-5, 17 years).
1987 Record: 6-1/1st; 8-2 overall.
Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.
Key Losses: Brian Barringer, SE; Dave Bunting, FB; Frank Caprio, CB; Kevin Dulsky, DE; Bob Glatz, WB; Don Heberle, CB; Kent Lucas, TE; Ben Stevens, OG; Kris Thabit, LB; Mike Von Rueden, S; Greg Williams, DT.
Starters Returning: Offense (6): John Bartholomew, T, 6-2/240, Sr.; Tony Consigli, C, 6-1/240, Sr.; Maurice Frilot, G/T, 6-0/260, Sr.; Tony Hinz, HB, 6-1/205, Sr.; Shawn Sensky, G, 6-2/245, Sr.; Tom Yohe, QB, 6-0/180, Sr. **Defense (4):** Jim Bell, T, 6-4/255, Sr.; Tom McConnell, MG, 6-3/245, Sr.; Don Peterson, E, 6-2/220, Sr.; Jim Smith, S, 6-1/180, Jr.
Key Returnees: Peter Allen, DE, Sr.; Mark Biasetti, TE, Sr.; Don Gajewski, TE, Sr.; Rod MacLeod, QB, Sr.; Silas Myers, WB, Jr.; Tim Perry, QB, Jr.; Neil Phillips, SE, Sr.

Harvard won its first outright Ivy title since 1975 by beating Yale in its season finale. With plenty of returning talent, Coach Joe Restic has a solid shot at making it two in a row.

The Crimson offense will be guided by quarterback Tom Yohe, who completed 158 of 321 passes for 2,134 yards and 17 touchdowns last year. Yohe enters his senior season as a leading candidate for Ivy Player of the Year honors.

The running attack should be potent with senior halfback Tony Hinz doing the lion's share of the work. The All-Ivy pick rushed for 789 yards and seven touchdowns and caught two passes for scores last fall.

Yohe and Hinz can take comfort in the fact that four of their five offensive linemen return, including All-Ivy tackle Maurice Frilot. Center Tony Consigli is strong in the middle. Hinz gathered the bulk of his yardage near the end of the season by running to the right through holes opened



Thanks in large part to the Garretts — quarterback Jason (left) and halfback Judd — Princeton enters the



season as one of the favorites to win the 1988 Ivy League title.

by tackle John Bartholomew and guard Shawn Sensky.

The Crimson lost its top three receivers from last year, so look for Restic to put the ball on the ground more this year.

The strength of the defense is the line, where All-Ivy end Don Peterson, middle guard Tom McConnell and tackle Jim Bell return. They formed 60 percent of the Crimson's best defensive line ever last year and should get a boost from end Peter Allen, a good pass rusher.

The rest of the defense is more questionable. Both starting linebackers are gone, and safety Jim Smith is the only returning veteran in the backfield.

CORNELL

Coach: Maxie Baughan (21-27-1, 5 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T4th; 5-5 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** 4-3.

Key Losses: Mark Baughan, LB; Rick Calhoun, DT; Jeff DeLamielleure, S; Shaun Hawkins, WR; Marc Pearlman, CB; Dave Quarles, K; Mike Raich, CB; Lee Reheman, OT; Gary Rinkus, DT; Stuart Tross, DE.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Sam Brickley, WR, 5-11/179, Sr.; Mark Burden, G, 6-1/236, Sr.; Howie Capek, C, 6-1/246, Sr.; Dave Dase, QB, 6-2/192, Sr.; Mike Haseltine, T, 6-1/260, Sr.; Doug Langan, G, 6-2/240, Sr.; Steve Lutz, WR, 5-11/188, Sr.; Scott Malaga, FB, 5-11/195, Sr.; Marc Warrington, TE, 6-2/220, Sr. **Defense (4):** Mike McGrann, LB, 6-5/230, Sr.; Dave Pollin, E, 6-4/237, Jr.; Len Tokish, LB, 6-3/209, Sr.; Corky Webb, S, 6-0/172, Sr.

Key Returnees: Brent Felitto, S, Sr. (RS/wrist); Tom Kobin, P, Jr.; Mitch Lee, LB, Jr.; Solomon Pugh, TB, Jr. (RS); Aaron Sumida, QB, Sr.

Top Newcomers: Jay Bloedorn, OT (JV); Ardell Mannings, DE (JV); John McNiff, TB (JV).

Look for Cornell to rebound from a disappointing 5-5 season. Coach Maxie Baughan has 13 starters back—nine on offense, four on defense—from a team that entered last season as a strong candidate to capture its first league title since 1971.

Senior Dave Dase enters fall camp as the starting quarterback. He threw for 1,302 yards and nine touchdowns after replacing Aaron Sumida early in the season. Sumida returns, too. He began the 1987 season as the starter and engineered the Big Red's season-opening, 17-13 victory over Pennsylvania, but soon lost his job because of inconsistency.

Cornell's main aerial threat will be All-Ivy wide receiver Sam Brickley, who led the league with 56 catches for 518 yards.

The focal point of the running attack will be senior fullback Scott Malaga. He paced the team with 647 yards rushing and was second in receptions with 23.

The real key to the offense, though, will be the line, where four of five starters return. The only loss was a key one—All-Ivy tackle Lee Reheman.

The strength of the defense is linebacker. Mike McGrann, a senior who ranked third on the team with 77 tackles, is back on the outside. Mitch Lee, a junior who came on near the end of the season, anchors the middle, while senior Len Tokish will handle the other outside spot.

"Mitch Lee could be the finest linebacker Cornell has ever had," Baughan said.

The secondary features Corky Webb, a free safety who led the team with 96 tackles last fall, and strong safety Brent Felitto, a 1986 starter who missed almost all of '87 with a broken wrist. But a pair of All-

Ivy picks, safety Jeff DeLamielleure and cornerback Mike Raich, are both gone.

Baughan faces a rebuilding job up front, where defensive end Dave Pollin is the only returnee. One of the losses was All-Ivy tackle Gary Rinkus.

"We need to shore up this area and hope that we will receive quality help from a number of sophomores," Baughan said.

YALE

Coach: Carmen Cozza (139-70-4, 23 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 7-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Dean Athanasia, TE; Tim Ahearn, OG; Tony Cappellino, DE; Troy Jenkins, RB; Kelly Ryan, QB; Bob Shoop, WR; Mike Stewart, RB; David Sullivan, S; Greg Toney, OT; Ken Tullo, C.

Starters Returning: Offense (3): Art Kalman, T, 6-7/285, Sr.; Jeff Rudolph, G, 6-2/245, Sr.; Tom Szuba, WB, 6-1/185, Sr. **Defense (9):** Mike Browne, T, 6-4/225, Jr.; Jim D'Onofrio, T, 6-1/225, Sr.; Steve Essick, S, 5-10/176, Jr.; John Hansberry, E, 6-1/215, Sr.; Richard Huff, CB, 5-11/167, Jr.; Glover Lawrence, MG, 6-5/245, Jr.; Don Lund, LB, 6-3/225, Sr.; Jon Reese, LB, 5-11/193, Jr.; Bob Stokes, CB, 6-1/167, Jr.

Key Returnees: Kevin Brice, RB, Sr.; Mark Brubaker, QB, Sr.; Ron Lewis, OT, Sr. (missed six games/knee); Bob Verduzco, QB, Jr.

Yale Coach Carmen Cozza, the dean of Ivy coaches, has won nine league titles in his 23 years at Yale, and though he has some major offensive problems, his defense returns enough starters (nine) to make the Bulldogs contenders.

Continued

The top defender is linebacker Don Lund, who led Yale in tackles with 138. Also returning is linebacker Jon Reese (130 tackles).

A defensive line headed by tackles Jim D'Onofrio and Mike Browne is solid. Safety Steve Essick and cornerback Richard Huff stand out in the secondary.

"Our defense ... did an excellent job last season," Cozza said. "I hope they will have the experience and strength to hold us together until the offense gets its confidence."

Eight offensive starters are gone, and the biggest cleats to fill will be quarterback Kelly Ryan's. Ryan, the Eli's all-time passing leader, capped his career with the Ivy Player of the Year award last season. Senior Mark Brubaker, who started one game two years ago, and junior Bob Verdusco, who threw all of nine passes last fall, are the top candidates to replace Ryan.

Cozza also will miss All-Ivy tight end Dean Athanasia, who set the school record for career receptions, and All-Ivy running back Mike Stewart.

But all is not grim for Yale offensively. The right side of the line should be solid with the return of All-Ivy guard Jeff Rudolph and tackle Art Kalman, a 6-7, 285-pound behemoth. Also back is tackle Ron Lewis, who injured his knee early last season.

Running back Kevin Brice should be a capable replacement for Stewart, while wingback Tom Szuba will provide a good target for the new quarterback. Szuba caught 44 passes for 582 yards a year ago.

PENNSYLVANIA

Coach: Ed Zubrow (14-6, 2 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/6th; 4-6 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Steve Castagnero, LB; Jim Bruni, FB; Chris Flynn, RB; Brad Hippenstiel, LB; Tom Joyce, WR; Mike Lista, DT; Brent

Novoselsky, TE; Parker Rohde, LB; Steve Walterhouse, CB; Chris Wilkins, OG.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Colin Abernathy, T, 6-4/230, Sr.; Tom Gizzi, C, 6-3/230, Sr.; John Keller, QB, 6-0/190, Sr.; John Lasas, T, 6-2/250, Sr.; Scott Sandler, WR, 5-11/190, Sr.; John Zinser, G, 6-3/250, Sr. **Defense (5):** Dan Bauer, NT, 6-2/200, Sr.; Steve Johnson, CB, 6-0/175, Sr.; Abe Jones, S, 6-1/180, Sr.; Eric Poderys, T, 6-2/220, Jr.; David Smith, S, 6-0/195, Sr.

Key Returnees: Tom Charters, S, Sr.; Derric Crowther, LB, Jr.; Mike Henley, LB, Sr.; Malcolm Glover, QB, Jr.; Bryan Keys, RB, Jr.; Greg McGuirk, OG, Sr.; Dolph Tokarczyk, TE, Sr.; Mike Waller, RB, Sr.; David Whaley, WR, Sr.

Penn came up way short in its bid for its sixth consecutive title last fall. In fact, the Quakers plummeted from 10-0 in '86 to 4-6, their first losing record since 1981.

Coach Ed Zubrow has some major holes to plug. Running back Chris Flynn, the school's No. 3 career rusher, has departed along with fullback Jim Bruni, tight end Brent Novoselsky and All-Ivy guard Chris Wilkins on offense, plus All-Ivy tackle Mike Lista and All-Ivy linebacker Brad Hippenstiel on defense.

The loss of Flynn could be softened by the return of junior Bryan Keys, who became the third Penn player in four years to win Ivy Rookie of the Year honors. Keys got his chance to play when Flynn was injured midway through the season and responded with 670 yards rushing, 112 yards receiving and seven touchdowns.

The quarterback position is less clear. The top candidates are John Keller and Malcolm Glover, who took turns starting and getting hurt last season.

Center Tom Gizzi anchors a line that returns 80 percent intact. Wide receiver Scott Sandler is the main pass-catching threat.

Five starters return from a defense that ranked 14th in I-AA in total defense a year ago, allowing only 288.8 yards per game. Though the stars of that unit are gone, tackle Eric Poderys (eight sacks), nose

tackle Dan Bauer and safety David Smith are the foundation of a solid group.

BROWN

Coach: John Rosenberg (21-16-2, 4 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 7-3 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: John Cuzzo, C; Walt Cataldo, S; Mark Donovan, QB; Doug Greenburg, LB/DL; Alex Kos, P/K; Leon Lewis, LB; Kirk Little, TB; Scott McCaleb, CB; Pat Murphy, NT; Bill Perry, DT; George Pfeffer, OG; Jamie Simone, WR; Tom Smith, WR; George Reilly, DB; Jeff Watts, DE; Tyler Wolfram, LB.

Starters Returning: Offense (5): Jim Anderson, G, 6-2/235, Sr.; Steve Harrison, TE, 6-5/230, Sr.; Joe Madden, T, 6-4/285, Sr.; George Pyne, T, 6-5/270, Sr.; Lane Wood, FB, 5-9/190, Sr. **Defense (2):** Darryl Heggans, CB, 5-9/165, Sr.; Greg Kylish, S, 6-2/200, Sr.

Key Returnees: Danny Clark, QB, Jr.; Ian Haycocks, C, Sr.; Dave Pearson, OT, Sr.; Greg Solomon, WR, Sr. (switched from TB).

Brown's 7-3 record last fall was its best in a decade. Only a 14-9 loss to Harvard separated the Bruins from the Ivy crown.

Despite the loss of 32 lettermen, including nine defensive starters, Coach John Rosenberg refuses to label this a rebuilding year. He said his "incoming sophomore group is better as a whole than the group that has graduated."

But will they mature rapidly enough?

The heart of the offense is fullback Lane Wood. He averaged 4.9 yards per carry a year ago but was even more effective as a blocker, clearing the path for the now-departed Kirk Little to gain 893 yards. Wood will be utilized more as a runner this season.

The offensive line is solid with guard Jim Anderson and tackles George Pyne and Joe Madden, son of John Madden, the coach-turned-commentator. A couple of experienced seniors are on hand to take over for All-Ivy center John Cuzzo.

The Bruins should get better quarterback play this year from junior Danny Clark, who started in place of injured starter Mark Donovan in the season finale against Columbia. He scored Brown's first touchdown on a 43-yard run and tallied the game-winner on a nine-yard run with less than a minute to play.

With inexperience at both quarterback and the wideout spots, however, Brown's passing game is a question mark.

The Bruins suffered all kinds of defensive losses, including All-Ivy picks Bill Perry at tackle, Tyler Wolfram at linebacker and Walt Cataldo at safety. All-Ivy punter Alex Kos (39.3-yard average) is gone, too.

The star of the green defensive unit is Greg Kylish, a strong safety who made 72 tackles, broke up eight passes, intercepted three others and caused three fumbles.

DARTMOUTH

Coach: Buddy Teevens (2-8, 1 year; 15-17 overall, 3 years).

1987 Record: 1-6/7th; 2-8 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Rob Combi, CB; Brent Frei, DT; Lance High, OT; Rick Hill, OG; Brian Janssen,



Mitch Lee could be the finest linebacker Cornell has ever had.



Columbia has the talent — like fullback Chris Konovalchik — to win a game or two this fall.

OG; Brett Matthews, S; Derek McDowell, DT; Ish McLaughlin, NG; Lee Overstreet, OT; Terry Phillis, FB; Andy Russell, S.

Starters Returning: Offense (6): Dave Anderson, FL, 5-9/170, Sr.; Dave Gazzaniga, C, 6-5/239, Sr.; Mark Johnson, QB, 6-4/185, Jr.; Chris Keck, TE, 6-4/210, Sr.; Craig Morton, WR, 6-0/170, Sr.; Chris Pollard, TB, 5-9/180, Sr. **Defense (5):** Paul Michael, LB, 6-1/238, Sr.; Scott Sims, CB, 5-10/180, Sr.; Paul Sorensen, LB, 6-1/210, Sr.; Jay Swett, LB, 6-2/190, Sr.; Matt Walko, LB, 6-4/200, Sr.

Key Returnees: Tony Adiutori, DT, Jr.; Chris Casturo, S, Jr.; David Clark, TB, Jr.; Kevin Luensmann, DT, Jr.; Rich Outzen, OT, Sr.; Chris Rorke, QB, Sr.

Second-year Coach Buddy Teevens turned a program around at Maine, but the rebuilding project at Dartmouth may take longer. The Big Green went 2-8 a year ago, and with a young team again in 1988, it could be another long season.

"It certainly was an inauspicious beginning," Teevens said.

On the plus side, Dartmouth boasts the league's most talented receiving tandem in Craig Morton and Dave Anderson. Morton wasn't the dangerous long threat last season that he had been as a sophomore, but his 41 receptions for 651 yards was nothing to be ashamed of. Anderson is coming off a strong junior year in which he caught 35 passes for 461 yards.

Teevens' main problem will be getting the ball to Morton and Anderson. Senior Chris Rorke and junior Mark Johnson saw action at quarterback last year, but neither distinguished himself. The position is wide open.

The Big Green also has severe problems on the lines. Center Dave Gazzaniga is the only returning starter along the offensive wall, and all three defensive line starters have graduated.

Dartmouth's defense is strongest in the middle, where seniors Paul Michael and Paul Sorensen form the league's best inside linebacking unit. Michael, an All-Ivy selection, had 111 tackles last year, second on the team only to Sorensen's 120.

Cornerback Scott Sims (six interceptions) spearheads an unproven secondary.

"The goal for this season is to scrap and push and fight as best we can," Teevens said.

COLUMBIA

Coach: Larry McElreavy (0-20, 2 years).

1987 Record: 0-7/8th; 0-10 overall.

Offense: Multiple. **Defense:** Multiple.

Key Losses: Mike Bissunger, DB; John Miller, C; Tony Natola, NG; Dave Putelo, QB; John Robinson, DE; Paul San Fillippo, DB; Matt Sodi, DT.

Starters Returning: Offense (9): Terry Brown, WR, 5-10/170, Sr.; Brent Byerly, TE, 6-4/205, Jr.; Paul Childers, T, 6-2/240, Sr.; Peter Davis, T, 6-3/245, Sr.; Chris Della Pietra, HB, 6-0/185, Sr.; Matt Fox, WR, 6-1/180, Sr.; Chris Konovalchik, FB, 5-10/105, Jr.; Bill McGee, G, 5-10/220, Sr.; Bennie Seybold, G, 6-2/245, Sr. **Defense (6):** John Alex, LB, 5-11/200, Sr.; Bart Barnett, LB, 5-8/205, Jr.; Terry Elliott, S, 6-0/175, Jr.; Walter Haynie, HB, 5-11/165, Sr.; Dan Loflin, T, 6-0/220, Sr.; Paul Tomasi, E, 6-3/215, Jr. **Key Returnees:** Mike Casey, S, Soph. (RS); Erik Johnson, DT, Jr.; Ron Kalyan, WR, Jr.; Matt Less, TE, Jr.; Bob Paschall, DT, Jr.; Matt

Polard, P/K, Jr.; Mike Pyle, LB, Jr.; Tom Ramsdell, DT, Jr.; Larry Rancilio, LB, Jr.; Mike Seidewad, QB, Sr.; Mark Zielunski, E, Sr.

Unfortunately for Columbia, 1987 was a record-setting year. The Lions racked up another 0-10 record and extended their losing streak to 41 games. That easily surpassed the major college futility mark set by Northwestern. But Columbia remains nine losses shy of the all-time record established by Macalester College, a Division III school in Minnesota that once lost 50 straight.

That record may be out of reach because believe it or not, Columbia has the talent to win a game or two this fall.

Third-year Coach Larry McElreavy has a bunch of talented players coming up from his freshman team, which went undefeated for the first time in school history. He also is counting on the 15 starters he has back from last year's varsity, which on several occasions came oh-so-close to snapping the streak.

Among the nine defensive returnees is linebacker John Alex, who led the team with 86 tackles. Another key man back on defense is Bart Barnett, a small (5-8, 205 pounds) but powerful linebacker who finished third on the team with 77 tackles.

The offensive line is anchored by tackle Paul Childers, while the running attack is led by fullback Chris Konovalchik, the team's leading rusher last fall.

Quarterback Dave Putelo is gone, leaving that position up for grabs. ■

Wyatt realizes boyhood dream in Flagstaff rather than Tempe

By DAVE PETRUSKA
Tucson Citizen

Greg Wyatt wanted like hell to be a Sun Devil, but not if he wasn't wanted. And Arizona State didn't want him.

Growing up 30 minutes from the Arizona State campus, Wyatt was a lifelong Sun Devils fan. He even went to their football camp after his sophomore year at Phoenix's Moon Valley High School. He was an all-state quarterback his last two seasons and was hoping for a scholarship offer from the Tempe university.

It never came. The Sun Devils instead signed California products Michael Johnson and Brett Johnson in February 1985, prompting Wyatt to accept a scholarship from Northern Arizona in Flagstaff.

Wyatt has never regretted that decision, despite the fact that he might have become the Sun Devils' starting quarterback last year had he walked on at Arizona State. Neither Johnson panned out at quarterback for the Sun Devils, who had a quarterback-of-the-week club last season.

"You can't assume I would have been the quarterback at ASU," the 6-foot-3, 190-pound junior said. "I know coming in I would have been behind the Johnsons for sure and all the other QBs if I had walked on. That's how I was evaluated on their list. It's pretty hard to change someone's mind when it is already set. I don't worry anymore about 'what ifs.' I thought a bit about it my freshman year, but that was the last time. I'm happy here."

Not to mention successful. Wyatt may be the best quarterback you've never heard of—not because he lacks ability, but visibility. Division I-AA players don't get much ink nationwide, let alone in the state of Arizona, where Arizona State and Arizona dominate sports coverage.

But none of college football's most prolific quarterbacks—not Doug Flutie, Todd Santos, Kevin Sweeney, Neil Lomax or Willie Totten—entered his junior season with as many completions (518) as Wyatt has registered in his first two seasons. By completing 65 percent of his passes for 3,002 yards and 24 touchdowns last year, Wyatt raised his career totals to 5,864 yards and 41 TDs.

Most impressive about Wyatt is his ability to keep success from going to his head.

"Greg is a very well-rounded person," said Brad Childress, the Lumberjacks' offensive coordinator. "He's very smart. If football ended for him tomorrow, he would still do well in life."

That's because this lifelong quarterback has a large dose of lineman in him. His dad coached the line in Pop Warner leagues, and his older brother was a lineman in college. His best friend and roommate is offensive tackle Vince Beemiller.

"I've always had more of that lineman mentality," Wyatt said. "Linemen are



Success has not gone to the head of Northern Arizona quarterback Greg Wyatt.

known for working hard, for never giving up, and that's the way I am. They are usually out of the spotlight, which isn't true for a quarterback, but I don't search for it."

It's a wonder he found it, considering how he appeared destined for anonymity at Northern Arizona, too. Two other freshmen played behind starter Craig Austin in 1985 while Wyatt was redshirted.

But in the spring of 1986, Coach Larry Kentera hired Childress as his offensive coordinator and Wyatt became Austin's backup. After Austin had a poor game in the '86 opener against Southern Utah State, Wyatt started the next game. He hasn't been out of the lineup since.

Under his direction, the Lumberjacks have posted consecutive 7-4 seasons.

"I don't care about the personal records," Wyatt said. "I want us to make it to the (I-AA) playoffs. We've been close two years in a row."

Wyatt, who has a 3.46 grade-point average in finance with a minor in marketing, was hoping to finish school next May, but schedule conflicts will delay his graduation until December 1989. He had been planning on using his final year of football eligibility anyway.

"I need that extra year of playing time," Wyatt said. "I'm not a Bernie Kosar."

But Childress, who coached such quarterbacks as Tony Eason, Dave Wilson and Jack Trudeau at Illinois, said Wyatt could be a good pro.

"Greg doesn't have the arm strength of a Tony Eason, but his arm strength is getting better," Childress said. "If you want that brute arm strength of an Eason or the great athleticism of a Joe Montana, he's not quite there. But he makes things happen." ■

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. NEVADA-RENO

Coach: Chris Ault (99-42-1, 12 years).
1987 Record: 4-4/T4th; 5-6 overall.
Key Returnees: Bill Bonsall, DT, Sr.; Mike Brown, S, Sr.; Bernard Ellison, CB, Jr.; Chavez Foger, FB, Sr.; Tom Klisiewicz, OT, Sr.; Mike Lazovich, LB, Sr.; Tony Logan, WR, Sr.; Mike Micone, C, Soph.; Jim Zaccaro, QB, Sr.

2. IDAHO

Coach: Keith Gilbertson (17-7, 2 years).
1987 Record: 7-1/T1st; 9-2 overall.
Key Returnees: Richard Carey, CB, Sr.; Brian Decio, K, Sr.; John Friesz, QB, Jr.; Greg Hale, OT, Sr.; John Jake, WR, Sr.; Jerry Medved, LB, Sr.; Todd Neu, OG, Jr.; John Pleas, S/P, Sr.; Mark Schlereth, OG, Sr.; Chris Slater, TE; Kord Smith, DL, Jr.; Troy Wright, OT, Jr.

3. NORTHERN ARIZONA

Coach: Larry Kentera (17-16, 3 years).
1987 Record: 4-4/T4th; 7-4 overall.
Key Returnees: Vince Beemiller, OT, Sr.; Shawn Collins, TE, Sr.; Chris Glaze, DE, Sr.; Charles Matthews, RB, Sr.; Mickey Penafior, K, Jr.; Frank Pollack, OG, Sr.; Erik Vance, LB, Sr.; Greg Wyatt, QB, Sr.

4. BOISE STATE

Coach: Skip Hall (6-5, 1 year).
1987 Record: 4-4/T4th; 6-5 overall.
Key Returnees: Eric Croll, OG, Sr.; Jerry Ennis, LB, Jr.; Jeff Lindsley, TE, Sr.; Tom Schimmer, P, Sr.; Chris Truitt, CB, Sr.

5. MONTANA

Coach: Don Read (12-9, 2 years; 81-100-1 overall, 18 years).
1987 Record: 5-3/3rd; 6-5 overall.
Key Returnees: Scott Camper, DL, Sr.; Renard Coleman, RB, Sr.; Jody Farmer, RB, Jr.; Scott Hartman, C, Sr.; Tim Hauck, CB, Jr.; Greg Nygren, S, Sr.; Jason Ray, DT, Sr.

6. WEBER STATE

Coach: Mike Price (41-38, 7 years).
1987 Record: 7-1/T1st; 9-2 overall.
Key Returnees: Jeff Carlson, QB, Sr.; Calvin Hampton, S, Sr.; Brook Hatfield, OG, Sr.; Rick Justice, FL, Jr.; Wade Orton, SE, Sr.; Mike Robinson, DT, Sr.; Taani Tai, DE, Sr.; Fine Unga, RB, Sr.; Gerald Wilcox, TE, Sr.; Rich Willis, CB, Sr.

7. EASTERN WASHINGTON

Coach: Dick Zornes (59-33-1, 9 years).
1987 Record: 2-6/8th; 4-7 overall.
Key Returnees: Jamie Buenzli, SE, Sr.; Andre Corr, CB, Sr.; Brad Faker, LB, Sr.; Kevin Larew, FL, Sr.; Jeff Mickel, OT, Sr.; Jamie Townsend, TB, Sr.

8. MONTANA STATE

Coach: Earle Solomonson (1-10, 1 year; 25-12-1 overall, 3 years).
1987 Record: 0-8/9th; 1-10 overall.
Key Returnees: Rob Fulton, OT, Sr.; Joel Grace, TE, Sr.; Kevin Kerwin, DB, Sr.; Mark Rinehart, RB, Jr.

9. IDAHO STATE

Coach: Garth Hall (first year at Idaho State).
1987 Record: 3-5/7th; 3-7-1 overall.
Key Returnees: Matt Bombard, K, Jr.; Shawn Nessen, OT, Jr.; Paul Schwenke, DT, Sr.; Greg Teeter, OG, Sr.; Jason Whitmer, QB, Soph.

Offensive Player of Year: Greg Wyatt, QB, Northern Arizona.

Defensive Player of Year: Bill Bonsall, DT, Nevada-Reno.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

5-9 quarterback Jeff Wiley lifts Holy Cross to new heights

1. HOLY CROSS

Coach: Mark Duffner (21-1, 2 years).
1987 Record: 4-0/1st; 11-0 overall.
Key Returnees: Willie Bradford, TB, Jr.; Darrin Darrington, DB, Soph.; Tim Donovan, TB, Jr.; Julio Fernandez, DB, Sr.; Mike Gallagher, WR, Soph.; Dennis Golden, OG, Sr.; Scott Kania, K, Soph.; Chris Maruca, LB, Jr.; Rob McGovern, LB, Sr.; Dave Murphy, CB, Jr.; A.J. Nieman, QB, Sr.; Randy Pedro, TE, Sr.; Jack Phelps, P, Sr.; Mike Saghy, DE, Sr.; Tom Smith, DE, Sr.; Mark Stoy, OT, Sr.; Gerry Trietley, MG, Sr.; Vic Washington, WR, Jr.; Jeff Wiley, QB, Sr.

2. LEHIGH

Coach: Hank Small (10-11-1, 2 years).
1987 Record: 3-1-1/2nd; 5-5-1 overall.
Key Returnees: Lee Blum, TB, Sr.; Todd Brunner, QB, Jr.; Glenn Comisac, DB, Sr.; Rich Curtis, FB, Sr.; John Gorman, FL, Sr.; Brian Henzel, OG, Jr.; Chris Hite, LB, Sr.; Gary Karnish, LB, Jr.; Tom Marron, TE, Sr.; Mark McGowan, QB, Sr.; Anthony Miranda, DT, Jr.; Gary Nelson, C, Soph.; Pete Pawlenko, T, Sr.; Dave Rosen, DT, Soph.; Rob Varano, FL, Jr.; Mike Walsh, DB, Jr.; Kent Weaver, OT, Sr.; Terry Williams, DB, Sr.; Greg Wolfson, DB, Sr.

3. COLGATE

Coach: Michael Foley (first year at Colgate).
1987 Record: 2-2/3rd; 7-4 overall.
Key Returnees: Steve Aldiero, S, Jr.; Dave Bovell, S, Jr.; Paul Buskey, FB, Jr.; Dave Charney, DB, Sr.; J.J. Cordi, TB, Soph.; Mike Cote, OT, Sr.; Juan Dela Rosa, CB, Sr.; Brian Douglas, DT, Sr.; Rich Evans, WR, Jr.; Joe Hunt, DE, Sr.; Matt Jaworski, LB, Sr.; John Mody, LB, Sr.; Damon Phelan, QB, Sr.; Greg Robitaille, OG, Sr.; Kyle Sanborn, TE, Sr.; Jeff Way, TB, Sr.

4. LAFAYETTE

Coach: Bill Russo (43-32, 7 years; 58-47 overall, 10 years).
1987 Record: 2-3/4th; 4-7 overall.
Key Returnees: James Adams, TB, Sr.; Gene Beasley, DE, Sr.; Frank Baur, QB, Jr.; Daryl Boich, P/LB, Jr.; Kurt Bowman, RB, Sr.; Freddie Brown, OT, Sr.; Keith Grant, DE, Jr.; Matt Higgins, DT, Sr.; Walt Johnston, DB, Jr.; Ryan Lafferty, OG, Jr.; Chris LaPietra, MG, Sr.; Gene Lofstead, OG, Jr.; Phillip Ng, FL, Sr.; Tony Miller, FB, Sr.; Wayne Norris, DB, Jr.; Andy Nygren, C, Sr.; Matt Sala, DT, Jr.; Woody Swan, TE, Jr.; Dave Williams, OT, Jr.; Kevin Williams, DB, Sr.

5. BUCKNELL

Coach: George Landis (7-12-1, 2 years; 31-30-2 overall, 6 years).
1987 Record: 1-3-1/5th; 4-5-1 overall.
Key Returnees: Steve Barimo, K, Jr.; Ed Foley, C, Sr.; Greg Gaines, OT, Sr.; Mike Guerrini, WR, Soph.; Chris Hackley, LB, Sr.; Robert Hawkins, CB, Sr.; Dan Meenan, OG, Sr.; Steve Weiss, TB, Sr.

6. DAVIDSON

Coach: Vic Gatto (2-29, 3 years; 51-74 overall, 15 years).
1987 Record: 0-3/6th; 1-10 overall.
Key Returnees: Tony Hubbard, LB, Soph.; David Lilley, E/LB, Sr.; Kenny Nazemetz, LB, Jr.; Bryan Overcash, CB, Jr.; Bryn Robinson, TB, Soph.; Mike Rogers, NG, Jr.; Buddy Wilkerson, LB, Jr.

Offensive Player of Year: Jeff Wiley, QB, Holy Cross.

Defensive Player of Year: Rob McGovern, LB, Holy Cross.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

By SCOTT PITONIAK
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

The Holy Cross football team was waiting in an airport two years ago when an announcement came over the loudspeaker that small children could board the plane first.

Several players began calling and motioning for quarterback Jeff Wiley.

"Those turkeys figured that since I was only 5-foot-9, I'd feel more at home with the kids," Wiley said. "My teammates are amazing. They never miss an opportunity to remind me of my height."

Wiley may be short as quarterbacks go, but that hasn't stopped him from lifting Holy Cross football to new heights.

Over the last two seasons, he has broken almost every school passing and total offense record while guiding the Crusaders to a 21-1 record.

No quarterback in Division I-AA had better numbers last fall.

In 11 starts—all victories—Wiley completed more than 66 percent of his passes for 3,677 yards and 34 touchdowns. He also led Division I-AA in total offense, accounting for more than 338 yards per game. He was nothing short of phenomenal in a 63-6 victory against Lehigh, completing 27 of 39 passes for 414 yards and seven TDs.

Still, few outside the Holy Cross community in Worcester, Mass., were aware of Wiley's exploits. The national media instead were focusing their attention on Wiley's famous teammate, Gordie Lockbaum.

Lockbaum had captured the hearts of fans everywhere in 1986 by earning Division I-AA All-America honors on both offense and defense, a feat unheard of in this age of two-platoon specialization.

Although Lockbaum concentrated on offense last season, his grip on the sporting press was strong enough for him to finish third in the Heisman Trophy balloting. Ironically, Wiley was the Colonial League's Offensive Player of the Year and Lockbaum could do no better than a distant second to Wiley in voting for Holy Cross' most valuable player.

"Wiley is the guy who makes them go," Bucknell Coach George Landis said. "I've told people that if I had to pick one player from their team, it would be Wiley and not Lockbaum."

Wiley, a consensus All-America selection, enters his senior year as a leading candidate for the Walter Payton Award, presented annually to the year's top I-AA player. Not bad for a guy who almost didn't get to play college football.

Never mind that Wiley had thrown for more than 5,000 yards and 51 touchdowns in his three years at Celina High School in rural Ohio. Never mind that he had taken his team to the state championship game his junior year.

The bottom line: Wiley was too short.



No quarterback in Division I-AA had better numbers last year than Holy Cross' Jeff Wiley.

The youngster made his dream recruiting visit to Ohio State the weekend of the Michigan game but was told that the Buckeyes were looking at three other quarterbacks.

"It's funny, but after Ohio State lost interest in me, everybody else seemed to jump ship, too," Wiley recalled.

His last chance appeared to be Toledo of the Mid-American Conference. But the Rockets didn't offer a scholarship and Wiley thought his playing days were over.

"I felt as if I had been punched in the gut," Wiley said. "In a period of about 1½ months I went from thinking my boyhood dream of playing for Ohio State might come true to thinking I wasn't going to play at all."

But in late January, Holy Cross assistant Mark Duffner, looking for quarterback help, asked Wiley's high school coach to send him game film.

"When I first saw the film, Wiley looked like Doug Flutie," said Duffner, who replaced the late Rick Carter as Holy Cross coach in 1986. "I had never seen a high school quarterback do what he did. Right off the bat, he made things happen. There was something magical about him."

Because it was so late in the recruiting season, Holy Cross was able to offer only a half-scholarship. Wiley accepted.

After an up-and-down freshman season, Wiley took over the starting job midway through the 1986 opener and went on to complete 57 percent of his passes for 2,464 yards and 16 touchdowns while leading Holy Cross to a 10-1 record.

Despite the graduation of Lockbaum, Wally Dembowski and several other leading receivers, Wiley thinks the Crusaders will field another potent offense in '88.

"Because so many of our games were lopsided, we were able to get our young players a lot of playing time," he said.

Which means the Crusaders again could be operating on a "short" fuse, courtesy of Jeff Wiley. ■

Western Illinois' Paul Singer tunes up for Gateway title bid

By RON SYLVESTER
Springfield (Mo.) News-Leader

Bruce Craddock might want to thank the U.S. Army for his coaching success last year at Western Illinois. Craddock's 1987 Leathernecks compiled a better record (7-4) than his four previous teams and are favored to win this season's Gateway Collegiate Athletic Conference title.

The primary reason is quarterback Paul Singer, the proud owner of 15 school records. That's where Craddock's gratitude comes in. The straight-throwing senior probably never would have ended up in Macomb, Ill., if not for his father's Army career.

Coming out of Fort Knox (Ky.) High School in 1984, Singer could have received scholarships from Western Kentucky, Middle Tennessee State or Louisville. But when the Army transferred Col. Larry Singer to Springfield, Ill., Paul decided to walk on at a school near his new home. Col. Singer, his wife, Peg, and Paul visited nearly every Division I-A and I-AA college in Illinois.

"We took about a week off and just made a vacation of it," Col. Singer said. "We were all really torn about what to do. You see, all our children's activities had been family-type stuff for us. But Paul, he's the one who made the decision, although maybe we did a little bit of unconscious arm-twisting."

Paul Singer said he picked Western Illinois because Craddock emphasized a passing game.

Col. Singer, inspector general for the Illinois National Guard, took care of the state's defense and Paul took care of the Leathernecks' offense.

Singer threw for 1,601 yards and 10 touchdowns as a redshirt freshman in 1985 and ranked among the I-AA passing leaders. But the sophomore jinx struck hard in 1986 when he missed spring workouts after bouts with mononucleosis and pneumonia and then went down in the third game of the season with a shoulder separation.

Still, his numbers were impressive. The 6-foot-3, 195-pounder missed two games but finished the season with 1,102 yards passing and 10 touchdowns.

"My sophomore season turned out pretty rough, but that had a lot to do with my success last year," Singer said. "It made me realize that you can't take things for granted. You have to treat every game like it's your last."

"More specifically, you have to treat every play like it's your last. You have to do your best, because you never know what's going to happen on the next play."

In 1987, Singer led the Gateway in passing (2,508 yards, 22 touchdowns) and total offense (210.7 yards per game).

"He's matured a great deal in the time



Western Illinois quarterback Paul Singer treats every play like it's his last.

since he's arrived," Leathernecks offensive coordinator Randy Ball said. "He has good mobility, good quick feet, a quick release and a very live arm."

Said Craddock: "He can take a hit, too. He's 6-foot-3 and very physically tough."

Singer, a GTE Academic All-America as well as the league's best quarterback, is the main reason Western Illinois is expected to win the Gateway title, a goal it just missed in 1987 when it lost its final conference game to Northern Iowa.

"You always pick the team with the best quarterback," Southwest Missouri State Coach Jesse Branch said. "Western has to replenish its offensive line, but they've gone out and signed a lot of junior college players. No matter what, it's just tough to beat Singer. He can do it."

Craddock, a former Marine captain, obviously was delighted with the Army's decision to transfer Col. Singer to Illinois. The Singers, likewise, are grateful their son decided to stay close to home. Larry and Peg Singer have attended every home and away game Western Illinois has played the last three years, traveling as far as California and Texas.

"I think it's something all parents would like to do, and let me tell you, I've never known a rich soldier," Col. Singer said. "But I'm in a position now where we can do this. We're really going to miss it after this year."

Paul Singer still wants one more record before leaving Western Illinois.

"I hold a lot of records here at this school, but the one I want most is 11-0," he said. "The most important record is our team won-loss record. There's no doubt in our mind we can do it this year." ■

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. NORTHERN IOWA

Coach: Darrell Mudra (43-16-1, 5 years; 200-81-4 overall, 26 years).

1987 Record: 6-0/1st; 8-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Kevin Anderson, CB, Jr.; Wes Anderson, FL, Sr.; Mark Botkin, OT, Sr.; Mike Campbell, DT, Sr.; Don Har-nack, LB, Sr.; Mark Hein, LB, Jr.; Sherrod Howard, TE, Sr.; Doug Jackson, P, Sr.; James Jones, DE, Soph.; Thelonious Key, CB, Sr.; Chris Klieman, S, Jr.; Bryce Paup, DE, Jr.; Errol Peebles, HB, Sr.; Anthony Price, SE, Sr.; Russ Rubie, OG, Sr.

2. WESTERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Bruce Craddock (27-26-1, 5 years; 51-45-1 overall, 8 years).

1987 Record: 5-1/2nd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Layne Bennett, K, Jr.; Mike Cox, RB, Jr.; Demetrius Davis, DE, Sr.; Chris Earl, SE, Sr.; Brett Grimshaw, FB, Sr.; Bill Hunter, DB, Jr.; Mike Krause, P, Jr.; Ron Nesbitt, OG, Sr.; Brian Rebac, OT, Soph.; Paul Singer, QB, Sr.; Pat Sullivan, DT, Sr.; Lorenzo Taylor, DB, Jr.; Thad Trump, LB, Soph.; Jay Wade, DB, Sr.; Presley White, LB, Sr.; Emrick Wilcox, DB, Sr.; Marlin Williams, DE, Sr.

3. INDIANA STATE

Coach: Dennis Raetz (46-43-1, 8 years).

1987 Record: 2-4/T5th; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Mark Bertram, DT, Jr.; Lavent Blaylock, CB, Jr.; Matt Campbell, LB, Sr.; Walter Crutchfield, S, Jr.; Curtis Daley, CB, Sr.; Steve Elmlinger, SE, Jr.; Kyle Frondorf, QB, Sr.; Ken Hopp, LB, Sr.; Chris Johnson, FL, Sr.; Antoine Liddell, LB, Sr.; Rodney Porter, TE, Jr.; John Sahm, QB, Jr.; Rhett Schmidt, DT, Sr.; Mark Sike, FB, Sr.; Tori Vactor, RB, Sr.; Paul Wafzig, NT, Sr.

4. EASTERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Bob Spoo (5-6, 1 year).

1987 Record: 3-3/T3rd; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Eric Arnold, QB, Soph.; Mike Bollen, DE, Jr.; Tom Govan, DE, Sr.; Daryl Holcombe, CB, Jr.; Scott Johnson, S, Sr.; John Jurkovic, DT, Jr.; Tim Lance, DB, Soph.; Dale Lloyd, CB, Jr.; Jeff Mills, LB, Jr.; John Noll, LB, Soph.; Sean O'Brien, C, Sr.; Warren Pearson, RB, Fr.; Dave Popp, OT, Sr.; R.L. Reynolds, CB, Jr.; Jeff Rolson, DT, Sr.; John Sengstock, FB, Soph.; Ralph Stewart, WR, Soph.

5. SW MISSOURI STATE

Coach: Jesse Branch (8-13, 2 years).

1987 Record: 3-3/T3rd; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Mark Christensen, OG, Jr.; Doug Gardner, OT, Sr.; Tony Gilbert, HB, Jr.; Tim Gray, DE, Jr.; Jeff Kleitz, DT, Jr.; Craig Phillips, CB, Jr.; Ray Ratcliff, SE, Sr.; DeAndre Smith, QB, Soph.

6. ILLINOIS STATE

Coach: Bob Otolski (30-41-3, 7 years).

1987 Record: 0-6/7th; 3-7 overall.

Key Returnees: Vic Northern, FB, Soph.; Jeff Smith, S, Sr.; Ron Westmoreland, TB, Sr.

7. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

Coach: Rick Rhoades (first year at Southern Illinois; 28-7-1 overall, 3 years).

1987 Record: 2-4/T5th; 3-8 overall.

Key Returnees: Brad Crouse, DE, Sr.; Byron Mitchell, RB, Sr.; Wesley Yates, TE/SE, Jr.

Offensive Player of Year: Paul Singer, QB, Western Illinois.

Defensive Player of Year: Jeff Smith, S, Illinois State.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

1. FLORIDA A&M

Coach: Ken Riley (10-11-1, 2 years).
1987 Record: 5-5-1 as independent.
Key Returnees: Terry Beauford, OT, Jr.; Brian Brewster, DT, Jr.; Dwayne Butler, LB, Sr.; Lowell Crawford, DB, Jr.; William Evers, DB, Jr.; Matthew Fair, DB, Sr.; Robert Frost, OG, Jr.; Derrick Gainer, RB, Sr.; Lamar Glover, LB, Sr.; Charles Gordon, OT, Sr.; Curtis Green, TE, Sr.; Howard Huckaby, WR, Jr.; Anthony Jamison, C, Sr.; Kenneth Johnson, DB, Sr.; John Jordan, OG, Sr.; Eddie Metcalf, LB, Jr.; Herbert Moore, NG, Jr.; Bryan Moore, RB, Sr.; Andre Williams, QB, Sr.

2. HOWARD

Coach: Willie Jeffries (23-19, 4 years; 94-64-6 overall, 15 years).
1987 Record: 5-0/1st; 9-1 overall.
Key Returnees: Pat Boyd, OG, Sr.; Dwight Brunson, C, Sr.; Mike Clarington, LB, Sr.; Anthony Davis, DB, Jr.; Lee DeBose, QB, Sr.; Derrick Faison, WR, Jr.; Marty Graves, LB, Jr.; Robert Hancock, DB, Jr.; Jimmie Johnson, TE, Sr.; Thomas Jones, DB, Jr.; Troy Kyles, WR, Jr.; Garry Martin, OT, Sr.; James Moore, NT, Jr.; Darryn Robinson, LB, Sr.

3. DELAWARE STATE

Coach: Bill Collick (23-9, 3 years).
1987 Record: 4-1/2nd; 7-3 overall.
Key Returnees: Reggie Barnes, HB, Sr.; Marvin Bright, DB, Sr.; Kevin Bryant, LB, Sr.; Mike DeLon, TE, Soph.; Tim Egerton, SE, Jr.; Darren Felton, QB, Sr.; Cordie Greenlee, C, Sr.; Paul Harris, DT, Jr.; Lee Johnson, OT, Sr.; Charles Loney, OT, Sr.; David Parkinson, K, Sr.; Dan Paskins, DT, Sr.; Justin Proctor, OT, Sr.; Lybrant Robinson, DE, Sr.; John Stone, FB, Sr.; Eric Wainwright, LB, Sr.; Mark Ware, DB, Sr.

4. SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

Coach: Dennis Thomas (11-11, 2 years).
1987 Record: 3-2/3rd; 6-5 overall.
Key Returnees: David Ammons, DT, Sr.; Jimmy Buchanan, LB, Jr.; William Dabose, FB, Sr.; Marco Elliott, DT, Sr.; Bobby Irby, OG, Sr.; Jamal Isom, DB, Soph.; Rodney McLaughlin, TE, Sr.; J.W. Montgomery, WR, Soph.; Clyde Norris, TB, Jr.; Kenny Pate, C, Soph.; Billy Rouse, WR, Jr.; Lance Salters, QB, Sr.

5. MORGAN STATE

Coach: Ed Wyche (first year at Morgan State; 55-45-4 overall, 10 years).
1987 Record: 0-5/6th; 1-9 overall.
Key Returnees: Nathaniel Ayers, QB, Jr.; Vernon Beard, CB, Sr.; Anthony Clark, DT, Sr.; James Dozier, LB, Soph.; William Foye, DE, Sr.; Ed Gough, LB, Jr.; Daryl Jackson, QB, Jr.; Tony James, WR, Soph.; Willie Jones, NG, Soph.; Bruce Lewis, C, Jr.; Michael Lynn, OG, Jr.; Charles McFadden, OT, Sr.; Calvin Montgomery, OT, Jr.; Allen Polston, LB, Sr.

6. NORTH CAROLINA A&T

Coach: Bill Hayes (first year at North Carolina A&T; 90-40-2 overall, 12 years).
1987 Record: 1-4/5th; 3-8 overall.
Key Returnees: Vernon Davis, DE, Sr.; Demetrius Harrison, LB, Jr.; Keith Matthis, RB, Sr.; Myron Mulcare, OG, Sr.; Eduardo Turnbull, C, Sr.

7. BETHUNE-COOKMAN

Coach: Larry Little (24-26-1, 5 years).
1987 Record: 2-3/4th; 4-7 overall.

Offensive Player of Year: Lee DeBose, QB, Howard.

Defensive Player of Year: Demetrius Harrison, LB, North Carolina A&T.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

Dave Parkinson's strong leg keeps Hornets fans buzzing



Delaware State's Dave Parkinson has become one of the finest kickers in Division I-AA.

By DONALD HUNT
Free-lance writer

When placekicker Dave Parkinson was being recruited by Delaware State, he had never heard of the Hornets. But that doesn't explain how Parkinson, who is white, wound up at a predominantly black college in a league with few other white players.

It was simply a matter of no one else wanting him.

"I had never heard of Delaware State," said Parkinson, who actually thought he was being recruited by Delaware. "I was familiar with the University of Delaware's football program. The Blue Hens always had good football teams. But I didn't know anything about Delaware State. I had no idea it was a black college."

"To be honest with you, it really didn't matter because they were the only school that offered me a scholarship. Plus, I had played in the Philadelphia Public League at Northeast High School. I played against a lot of black players. I have no regrets about coming down here."

Nor do his teammates. Parkinson, a 5-foot-11, 165-pound senior, has become one of the finest placekickers in Division I-AA. As a freshman in 1985, Parkinson converted seven of 13 field-goal attempts and 42 of 43 extra-point tries. He led the Hornets in scoring as a sophomore, making 13 of 24 field goals and 26 of 30 extra points. He ranked fourth in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference in scoring with 71 points as a junior, nailing 38 of 40 extra points and 11 of 23 field goals.

Parkinson has a strong leg. His longest field goal was a 46-yarder in 1986. He came close to matching that last year, booting a 45-yarder.

Delaware State Coach Bill Collick said his assistant coaches were looking specifi-

cally for a placekicker when they discovered Parkinson in a high school all-star game.

"We recruit football players down here," Collick said. "Whether you're black or white, it doesn't matter to me. Our coaches liked what they saw of him in the all-star game. He had a strong foot and could hit field goals from about 40 yards out. We're happy to have him in our program. He's one of those tough Philly kids."

Parkinson is one of many players from Philadelphia on the Hornets' roster.

"The fact that we have a lot of guys from Philly is one of the reasons why I decided to come here," he said. "That was a big factor in my decision. I'm very happy with the way things have gone for me."

Parkinson said he also has enjoyed playing in the MEAC, despite the league's lack of national exposure. While the media tend to overlook the MEAC, he said, the National Football League scouts don't.

"We have some fabulous players in the MEAC," Parkinson said. "I don't think the national media know too much about them."

"I can't see where the lack of coverage has hurt in some cases. Fortunately, the NFL scouts come out to see our teams play. Hopefully, the pro scouts will come out to see us play this year."

If they do, Collick believes the scouts will have a good chance of seeing Parkinson put the ball through the goal posts.

"Dave can kick in the NFL," Collick said. "He has been very consistent throughout his career. If we can get inside the 40, we know he can help us. That's why he's the best placekicker in the league. We're very fortunate to have a player like him in our program. I don't know what we'd do without him." ■

Eastern Kentucky's Harris runs over and around OVC defenses

By GENE McLEAN
Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader

The first scouting report on Elroy Harris was made a long time ago, when Elroy was just a boy.

As the youngster was walking off the field after another in a series of good Pop Warner League games in Winter Park, Fla., he was approached by the mother of an opposing player. This unhappy mom grabbed Harris and shook him, something nobody else had been able to do that day. And she gave him a lecture.

"She said I ran too hard," said Harris, a bruising 5-foot-10, 215-pound tailback for Eastern Kentucky. "She told me that if I didn't stop running so hard that I was going to hurt somebody."

"I've always thought about that. That's the nicest thing anybody ever said about me. I've always run hard. I still do."

Harris still hurts people, too—physically, mentally and where it counts most. On the scoreboard. And after two seasons of rushing for 2,557 yards and 31 touchdowns in part-time duty, Harris may be ready to emerge as one of the top running backs in the country. In any division.

"I think he is truly one of the best players to ever come through our league," Middle Tennessee State Coach James (Boots) Donnelly said. "And I think, without question, that he could be a standout in any league that he played in."

"He's so darn big and strong that he can just scare your little old cornerbacks to death. They look up and they see 'Mack' written on his chest and they get the heck out of the way. But he's got the speed to outrun you, too. Hell, I don't know how you stop him."

Harris has always been a threat. He received star billing after arriving at Eastern Kentucky from Winter Park High School, where he became one of the most talked-about athletes in Florida. He could bench-press 400 pounds and run the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds. He led the state in touchdowns and rushing his senior season and was considered the state's No. 2 prep tailback behind Zellwood's Sammie Smith, who now plays for Florida State.

"Sammie was a good player," Harris said. "In high school, he had played tailback for several years and I had just played it for one. He got most of the publicity. I just played. He got the big scholarship and I went to Eastern Kentucky."

"But I've never regretted it a minute. Walter Payton went to Jackson State, didn't he? Sammie and I are best of friends. We talk about it now. He tells me to just keep doing my best. That's what I'm trying. I want to be the best player in I-AA."

Before he's through, he just might be. As a freshman in 1985, Harris ran for more than 100 yards in Eastern Kentucky's last six games. He finished with



Eastern Kentucky tailback Elroy Harris has an uncanny knack for finding the end zone.

1,134 yards, 148 less than fellow tailback James Crawford. He also scored 14 touchdowns and two two-point conversions to lead the Ohio Valley Conference in scoring with 88 points.

"I learned a lot that year," Harris said. "I learned that in college ball, you can't let up. I gained my confidence. I knew I could run up here."

He didn't get a chance to run in 1986. He was declared academically ineligible. But he came back strong in '87, rushing for 1,423 yards on 239 carries in 12 games (including two in the I-AA playoffs).

Again Crawford joined his teammate at the 1,000-yard mark (1,263). Harris topped the 100-yard mark in eight straight games as the Colonels tied for first in the OVC with an 8-2 record and qualified for post-season play. Two games later, Harris also had scored 17 touchdowns, bringing his two-season total to 190 points. Each TD was punctuated by an artistic back flip.

"He has an uncanny way of getting into the end zone," Colonels Coach Roy Kidd said. "Just the way he flips shows what kind of athlete he is. He knows where it is, and if you get in his way, you're going to get hit."

"If he ever worked on his full game the hardest he can, there is no telling how great Elroy could be. There is no limit to his potential."

Harris, who will inherit the No. 1 tailback spot for good this year with the exodus of Crawford, said he is working on it.

"My philosophy has always been to win," he said. "Whatever it takes. If it takes running around somebody, I will. If it takes running over somebody, I will. If it means carrying the ball 30 to 35 times a game, I will. I think people will see me rise to the occasion this year." ■

TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. EASTERN KENTUCKY

Coach: Roy Kidd (188-71-8, 24 years).
1987 Record: 5-1/T1st; 8-2 overall.
Key Returnees: Robbie Andrews, DB, Jr.; Oscar Angulo, TE, Sr.; Randy Bohler, FL, Jr.; Mike Cadore, FL, Sr.; Chris Coffey, LB, Soph.; Kelly Cutright, S, Sr.; Mike Delvisco, C, Sr.; Lorenzo Fields, QB, Soph.; Myron Guyton, S, Sr.; Elroy Harris, TB, Jr.; Ron Jekel, LB, Sr.; Jeff Johnson, P, Sr.; Mike Kelly, OG, Sr.; Bernard Rhodes, DT, Jr.; Vince Scott, SE, Sr.; Jessie Small, DE, Sr.; Tim Tomaszewski, DE, Sr.

2. MURRAY STATE

Coach: Mike Mahoney (6-5, 1 year).
1987 Record: 3-3/4th; 6-5 overall.
Key Returnees: Danny Amato, LB, Soph.; Greg Armstrong, DT, Fr.; Glen Arterburn, FL, Jr.; Tim Broady, LB, Sr.; Shelton Buruss, DB, Soph.; Eric Crigler, OT, Jr.; Michael Davis, TB, Soph.; Lance Golden, DT, Sr.; Reggie Kennedy, LB, Soph.; Jamie Lowicz, DE, Jr.; Joe March, DE, Sr.; Richard Miller, FL, Soph.; Jim Murphy, DT, Sr.; Michael Proctor, QB, Jr.; Marshall Sills, C, Sr.; Tony Thornton, CB, Sr.; Frank Thigpen, S, Jr.

3. MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: James (Boots) Donnelly (59-41, 9 years; 73-48 overall, 11 years).
1987 Record: 4-2/3rd; 6-5 overall.
Key Returnees: Tommy Barnes, S, Sr.; Tony Bradley, DG, Sr.; DeJuan Buford, DB, Sr.; Marvin Collier, QB, Sr.; Orlando Crenshaw, SE, Fr.; Chuck Daniel, P, Soph.; Kenny Donaldson, SE, Soph.; Andre Dyer, LB, Jr.; Marty Euverard, DE, Sr.; Anthony Green, SE, Soph.; Melvin James, TE, Jr.; Wade Johnson, FB, Soph.; Joe Lisle, K, Jr.; Ricky Martin, TB, Soph.; Jack Pittman, DT, Sr.; Brent Shepard, DT, Sr.; Chuck Swafford, CB, Jr.; John Tate, OT, Soph.; Don Thomas, LB, Sr.; Kenny Tippins, DE, Sr.

4. TENNESSEE TECH

Coach: Jim Ragland (5-16, 2 years).
1987 Record: 2-4/5th; 5-6 overall.
Key Returnees: Frankie Bankhead, CB, Sr.; Jon Barksdale, DE, Sr.; Marc Campbell, WR, Jr.; Kenneth Gilstrap, WR, Sr.; Curtis Hissam, DT, Jr.; Jimmy Isom, S, Sr.; Marlon Placide, DE, Jr.; Gerald Sinkfield, LB, Sr.; Jo Jo Swofford, DT, Jr.; Mike Thornton, S, Sr.

5. AUSTIN PEAY STATE

Coach: Paul Brewster (first year at Austin Peay State).
1987 Record: 1-5/T6th; 2-9 overall.
Key Returnees: Sammy Gholston, QB, Jr.; Calvin Johnson, LB, Jr.; Mike Lewis, TB, Sr.; Tom McMillan, K, Jr.

6. MOREHEAD STATE

Coach: Bill Baldrige (12-31, 4 years; 17-36 overall, 5 years).
1987 Record: 1-5/T6th; 2-8 overall.
Key Returnees: Scott Carlson, DE, Jr.; Lance Jansen, QB, Sr.; Dave Pingue, WR, Soph.; Chris Swartz, QB, Soph.

7. TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: William Harris (31-13-2, 4 years).
1987 Record: 3-7-1 as independent.
Key Returnees: Gary Hockett, TE, Sr.; Anthony Pleasant, DL, Jr.; Roderick Reed, LB, Sr.; Ben Robinson, DB, Sr.; Tony Stargell, DB, Jr.; Melvin Waters, HB, Jr.

Offensive Player of Year: Elroy Harris, TB, Eastern Kentucky.

Defensive Player of Year: Jessie Small, DE, Eastern Kentucky.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

1. APPALACHIAN STATE

Coach: Sparky Woods (32-15-1, 4 years).

1987 Record: 7-0/1st; 9-2 overall.

Key Returnees: Keith Collins, CB, Jr.; Chris Conner, DT, Jr.; Tony Cox, P, Sr.; Mike Cureton, LB, Sr.; Stanley Friel, OG, Jr.; Derrick Graham, OT, Jr.; Ron Johnson, OT, Sr.; Jay Killen, C, Soph.; Ritchie Melchor, TB, Jr.; Bjorn Nittmo, K, Sr.; Chuck Phifer, DT, Soph.; Sam Sanders, LB, Sr.; Tim Sanders, TB, Sr.; Jimmy Snowden, DT, Sr.; Anthony Waters, LB, Sr.; Sam Wesley, WR, Sr.

2. MARSHALL

Coach: George Chaump (16-9, 2 years; 40-25-2 overall, 6 years).

1987 Record: 4-2/2nd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Mike Barber, WR, Sr.; Ron Darby, TB, Jr.; Sean Doctor, TE, Sr.; John Gregory, QB, Jr.; Bruce Hammond, WR, Sr.; Reggie Giles, CB, Sr.; Stanley Hall, S, Sr.; Jerry Harris, FB, Sr.; Nick McKnight, LB, Sr.; Bill Mendoza, DT, Sr.; Kerry Parks, TB, Jr.; John Spellacy, LB, Sr.; Mike Talkington, OT, Sr.; Jim Torres, C, Sr.

3. FURMAN

Coach: Jimmy Satterfield (14-7-2, 2 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T3rd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: John Bagwell, TB, Sr.; Elton Bailey, OG, Sr.; Jeff Blankenship, LB, Sr.; Fe Cowan, OT, Sr.; Julius Dixon, CB, Sr.; Bobby Daugherty, TB, Jr.; Kenneth Goldsmith, FB, Sr.; Dwight Sterling, TB, Jr.; Cherod Webber, S, Sr.

4. UT-CHATTANOOGA

Coach: Buddy Nix (22-22, 4 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/T3rd; 6-5 overall.

Key Returnees: Tony Bowick, NG, Sr.; Willie Greenway, LB, Sr.; Travis McNeal, TE, Sr.; Earnest Murray, WR, Soph.; Marlon Riggins, S, Sr.; Darryl Streeter, TB, Sr.; Dennis Waters, K, Sr.

5. WESTERN CAROLINA

Coach: Bob Waters (114-85-6, 19 years).

1987 Record: 2-4/T5th; 4-7 overall.

Key Returnees: Scottie Arant, DE, Sr.; Todd Cottrell, QB, Jr.; Tony Garagiola, OG, Jr.; John Martin, OT, Sr.; Jon Reed, TE, Soph.; Geno Segers, DE, Sr.

6. EAST TENNESSEE STATE

Coach: Don Riley (first year at East Tennessee State).

1987 Record: 2-5/7th; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Albert English, LB, Sr.; Wayne Hall, DE, Sr.; Rick Harris, CB, Sr.; Shane Player, LB, Jr.; Juan McGarran, CB, Sr.; Cedric Solomon, WR, Sr.

7. THE CITADEL

Coach: Charlie Taaffe (4-7, 1 year).

1987 Record: 1-5/8th; 4-7 overall.

Key Returnees: Carlos Aualos, OG, Sr.; Tommy Burris, QB, Sr.; J.D. Cauthen, CB, Sr.; Matt Larkin, LB, Sr.; Pete Long, LB, Sr.; Charles Wallace, OG, Sr.

8. VIRGINIA MILITARY INST.

Coach: Eddie Williamson (8-24-1, 3 years).

1987 Record: 2-4/T5th; 4-7 overall.

Key Returnees: Dave Brown, QB, Sr.; Joe Hurley, OT, Sr.; Anthony McIntosh, CB, Sr.; Mark Stock, FL, Sr.

Offensive Player of Year: Mike Barber, WR, Marshall.

Defensive Player of Year: Rick Harris, CB, East Tennessee State.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

Marshall's Barber shaves up opposing teams' secondaries

By GLENN ROLLINS
Charlotte Observer

During a press conference before Marshall's NCAA Division I-AA championship game against Northeast Louisiana last December, someone asked record-setting wide receiver Mike Barber how much his stats mean to him.

Before Barber could answer, tight end Sean Doctor blurted out: "They're his life."

Doctor's diagnosis wasn't far off.

Should you ask, Barber no doubt could describe every one of his I-AA-leading 106 catches (including four playoff games) last season, every one of his 1,757 yards and, most certainly, all of his 11 touchdowns.

Want more? He probably also could give you the jersey number of the nearest defender for every one of his 64 catches and seven TDs the year before.

Or would you like to hear how he has averaged 34.1 yards for his 18 career touchdown catches? Or how he ran a few end-around plays last season?

And don't even get him started on passing. He completed four of five last season, three for touchdowns, two in a quarterfinal victory over Weber State.

One of those was a 46-yarder to Doctor.

In just two seasons, Barber, a 5-foot-11, 167-pound senior, owns the Thundering Herd record book for receiving. His catches and yards last season also set Southern Conference records. He owns the Marshall mark for career receiving yards with 2,937, plus game records of 14 catches and 201 yards.

"Stats really don't mean any more to me than they do to Sean (Doctor)," Barber said. "It's just that they stick in my head. Like, Sean won't go to the trouble of looking up the national leaders, but if I do, he might ask me who's got what."

Doctor had reason to be interested. He caught 96 passes last season for 1,372 yards and nine touchdowns. Both return along with Bruce Hammond (43 catches, 716 yards and four TDs), meaning Marshall's passing machine will be missing only explosive Keith Baxter (37 catches, 821 yards and 12 TDs) and its quarterback.

Californian Tony Peterson was the trigger man in Marshall's incredible season, which ended with a 10-5 record after a 43-42 loss in the title game. He threw for 35 touchdowns and 4,902 yards. Into his place steps lefthander John Gregory, who was the starter before giving way because of injury.

"John can throw every ball Tony could throw," Barber said. "We shouldn't miss a beat."

Everything points toward another outstanding season for Barber, a consensus All-America selection.

Things didn't always look so bright for



No matter how hard he's hit, Marshall wide receiver Mike Barber's trademark is to pop right back up.

the youngster from Winfield, W.Va. He was a 5-10, 150-pound quarterback at 600-student Winfield, located 35 miles from Marshall's campus in Huntington.

"He was one of those small quarterbacks nobody much looked at," Chaump said. "Stan Parrish (now at Kansas State) recruited him, and I think they sort of put him on the team as a local guy."

Barber said the larger schools, like West Virginia, "thought I was scrawny." He thinks he was noticed by Marshall coaches at one of Parrish's camps.

Even so, Barber's freshman year was spent on special teams, learning from the team's three senior wideouts. When Chaump arrived the next spring, Barber made an impression and went on to enjoy an outstanding sophomore season.

"But I didn't know what I was doing then," he said. "I just tried to find some open space. Now, I recognize defenses and know what to do."

What he does, he does with speed (4.4 seconds in the 40-yard dash), moves, patience, leaping ability (34-inch vertical leap) and good hands.

Barber's trademark is that no matter how hard he's hit, he pops right back up.

"It's part of the psychological game," he said. "Defensive backs can get pretty cocky if they think you can't take a lick. If you jump up before they do, it might take away their edge."

Said Chaump: "He's got the speed to go deep, the mental toughness to catch the ball over the middle, the hands to catch it at the sideline and the completeness to make it work out of any pattern. I don't know if Mike catches any more out of one set than he does another."

Rest assured that Barber could give you a breakdown on that, too. ■

'Safety first' is the battle cry of NE Louisiana's Crutchfield

By CARL DUBOIS
Lake Charles (La.) American Press

Cyril Crutchfield understands the yin and yang of being a free safety. The freedom to roam Northeast Louisiana's secondary is tempered by the responsibility of being the Indians' safety valve, the last line of defense.

"In our system, he is precisely what we need back there," said Indians Coach Pat Collins, whose team won the Division I-AA national championship last season. "He has to be an excellent pass defender, but we expect him to be able to stop the run and make tackles. Two years straight he's been the second-leading tackler on our team."

The Indians' 43-42 win over Marshall in the I-AA title game was just one of several shootouts they survived in their 13-2 championship season. One might wonder how they did it. In the playoffs, Indian opponents averaged 31 points a game.

"But it could have been worse than it was," Collins said. "That far along in the season, you face the cream of the crop. It's a challenge to face offenses that have been improving over a period of 15 weeks. Cyril was a big part of an outstanding defensive unit. He did everything we asked him to do."

Crutchfield, a 6-foot-1, 201-pound senior, made 89 tackles in the regular season and 45 more in four playoff games. He intercepted only three passes in the first 11 games, but grabbed another and returned it 31 yards for a touchdown in a 44-41, double-overtime win over Northern Iowa in the semifinals. Still, his satisfaction comes from the routine assignments his position demands.

"I like the style of defense we play," Crutchfield said of the 4-2-5 alignment. "Reading the quarterback is my primary goal, but I have to be able to run to the football. I see a guy, a running back, coming through the line and it's just me and him—that's the ultimate situation."

Crutchfield ran track at Covington (La.) High School but didn't go out for football until his sophomore season. He wasn't big and knew his parents would object, so he forged their signature and joined the team secretly.

"Coach (Jack Salter) sent out a form to the house, and I wrote my parents' names in," Crutchfield said. "I ended up having to do extra chores to stay on the team."

Extra work is what makes Crutchfield the player he is, Collins said. A sprinter who runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds, Crutchfield attracted attention in early National Football League scouting combines. Collins believes more attention will come in 1988.

"I tell the scouts 'what you see is what you get' with Cyril," Collins said. "He's like having a coach on the field. He makes the adjustments, and he's a student of the



Extra work is what makes Northeast Louisiana safety Cyril Crutchfield the player he is.

game. He asks questions. He makes suggestions. And he's taken care of business in his personal life by getting his degree (marketing) first and worrying about a pro career second. He'll be playing his senior year as a graduate student."

Although it has never caught on as a nickname, Crutchfield's name has been printed several times as "Crunchfield." It's an honest mistake that the youngster's opponents and coach can appreciate.

"There's one play that defines Cyril for me as a player," Collins said. "In the semis, Northern Iowa went for two points after a touchdown. They tried to slip a back into the flat and get the ball to him. Cyril made a crunching tackle, a great play on the goal line, and knocked himself out for the rest of the game."

"We kicked a field goal in the second overtime to win that game, but we wouldn't have even gone to overtime if it wasn't for that tackle Cyril made."

His parents' fear of injury have proved unwarranted, though Crutchfield did have to sit out the end of that game and played earlier in the season with an ankle injury. But it wasn't that much of a problem.

"He loves his parents very much," Collins said. "His dad was injured a few years ago and is unable to work, and Cyril stays in close contact with them wherever we play. He goes home to them as often as he can, too."

Ironically, Crutchfield's father expressed more concern than his mother.

"Oh, he was especially worried when he found out about my ankle," Cyril said. "They called me every day, and I think he wanted me to sit out. My mom understands me, though. I'm the only boy in the family, and it's like I'm on a mission out there on the football field."

And what could be dangerous about playing a position with a name like free safety, anyway? ■



TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. NORTHEAST LOUISIANA

Coach: Pat Collins (52-29, 7 years).

1987 Record: 5-0/1st; 9-2 overall.

Key Returnees: Ken Burnett, OG, Soph.; Brian Castle, DE, Soph.; Cyril Crutchfield, S, Sr.; Duane Foret, C, Jr.; Richard Green, CB, Sr.; Jackie Harris, TE, Jr.; Vaurice Johnson, OT, Sr.; Reggie Lawson, OT, Soph.; Harvey Marcus, LB, Jr.; Tommy Minville, FB, Sr.; David Muse, OG, Sr.; Walter Phythian, QB, Sr.; Henry Richard, TB, Soph.; Jeff Steele, TB, Jr.

2. NORTH TEXAS STATE

Coach: Corky Nelson (29-37-1, 6 years).

1987 Record: 5-1/T2nd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Kenneth Biggers, S, Sr.; Scott Bowles, OT, Soph.; Marcus Camper, SE, Jr.; Walter Casey, S, Soph.; Darrin Collins, FB, Jr.; Scott Davis, QB, Soph.; Byron Gross, LB, Soph.; Robble Legg, LB, Sr.; David McGinty, HB, Sr.; Zane Paschall, OT, Jr.; Kim Phillips, CB, Sr.; Gene Pool, CB, Sr.; Ralph Roberson, S, Sr.; Kregg Sanders, TE, Soph.

3. NORTHWESTERN STATE

Coach: Sam Goodwin (25-29-1, 5 years; 34-39-2 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 3-3/4th; 6-5 overall.

Key Returnees: Jay Anderson, OG, Jr.; David Chitman, CB, Jr.; Mark Contreras, P, Soph.; Nick Day, OG, Sr.; Al Edwards, SE, Jr.; Keith Hodnett, K, Sr.; Kevin Lewis, CB, Sr.; Orlan Lockhart, TE, Sr.; Mark Newstrom, LB, Sr.; Mike O'Neal, FB, Sr.; Leonard Parker, LB, Sr.; Mitch Rowe, DT, Jr.; Henry Sibley, DE, Sr.; Rusty Slack, QB, Sr.; Dennis Smith, CB, Jr.; Jeff Steers, C, Sr.; Floyd Turner, FL, Sr.; Freddie Wallace, LB, Sr.

4. SAM HOUSTON STATE

Coach: Ron Randleman (40-27, 6 years; 127-69-3 overall, 19 years).

1987 Record: 5-1/T2nd; 8-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Lish Adams, LB, Sr.; Billy Anderson, S, Sr.; Bart Bradley, P, Jr.; Marvin Brown, DT, Sr.; Ricky Eggleston, TE, Sr.; Andre Finley, DE, Jr.; Billy Hayes, K, Sr.; Victor Henry, FL, Sr.; Mike Ober, DT, Jr.; Rickey Royal, CB, Sr.

5. SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE

Coach: John O'Hara (27-28, 5 years).

1987 Record: 2-4/5th; 4-7 overall.

Key Returnees: Matt Barber, TE, Sr.; Brad Fuls, LB, Sr.; A.J. Johnson, WR, Sr.; Glenn Mangold, DT, Jr.; Mike Murphy, WR, Jr.; Ron Rittmann, QB, Sr.; Tommy Salazar, C, Jr.; Sam Scott, OT, Sr.

6. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE

Coach: Jim Hess (37-27-2, 6 years; 102-50-5 overall, 14 years).

1987 Record: 0-5/7th; 3-7-1 overall.

Key Returnees: Lance Centers, TB, Jr.; Bobby Henry, LB, Sr.; Jeff Jackson, C, Jr.; Eric Lokey, LB, Sr.; Keith Melcher, DE, Sr.; Julius Smith, LB, Sr.; David Whitmore, S, Jr.

7. MCNEESE STATE

Coach: Sonny Jackson (2-9, 1 year; 41-37-1 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 1-5/6th; 2-9 overall.

Key Returnees: Darrin Andrus, LB, Jr.; Tony Citizen, TB, Jr.; Berwick Davenport, S, Sr.; Jeff Delhomme, WR, Soph.; Glenn Koch, OT, Sr.; Jimmy Poirier, P, Soph.; Lance Wiley, K, Sr.

Offensive Player of Year: Floyd Turner, FL, Northwestern State (La.).

Defensive Player of Year: Cyril Crutchfield, S, Northeast Louisiana.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

1. JACKSON STATE

Coach: W.C. Gorden (90-34-3, 12 years).

1987 Record: 7-0/1st; 8-2-1 overall.

Key Returnees: Beverly Bishop, QB, Jr.; Tim Barnett, WR/TE, Soph.; Cammie Collins, LB, Sr.; Darion Connor, LB, Jr.; Kevin Dent, S, Sr.; Darion Easterling, TE, Jr.; Steve Gregory, QB, Soph.; Harold Heath, TE, Fr.; Charles Jackson, DL, Sr.; Daryl Jones, RB, Sr.; Ronald Lewis, RB, Sr.; Fred McRae, P, Soph.; Cedric McSwine, C, Jr.; Kenneth Primos, DB, Jr.; Alex Robinson, RB, Fr.; Lewis Tillman, RB, Sr.; Richard Wright, OT, Jr.

2. ALCON STATE

Coach: Theo Danzy (11-8, 2 years; 29-37-3 overall, 7 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 6-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Michael Andrews, CB, Sr.; Cedric Bush, FB, Sr.; Samuel Butler, DT, Jr.; Vincent Carter, DE, Soph.; Calvin Gaines, TB, Soph.; Bennie Goods, LB/DE, Soph.; Xavier Hall, LB, Jr.; James Harper, OG, Jr.; James Hervey, OT, Sr.; Rodney Kelly, C, Sr.; Warner Loring, OT, Sr.; Victor Lyons, LB, Soph.; Freddie McNair, SE, Soph.; Jack Phillips, S, Sr.; Willie Thomas, S, Sr.; Jerome Vigne, QB, Sr.; Dwayne White, OG, Jr.; Kelvin Wright, DT, Jr.; Premal Younger, FL, Sr.

3. GRAMBLING STATE

Coach: Eddie Robinson (341-119-15, 46 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/5th; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Richie Crosby, WR, Jr.; Toney Griffin, OG, Sr.; Michael Harris, C, Sr.; Sygmon Holland, LB, Sr.; Daniel Jones, C, Sr.; Fred Jones, WB, Sr.; Robert Reddix, DB, Sr.; Darryl Smith, OT, Sr.; Ricky Warren, OT, Sr.

4. SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Coach: Marino Casem (7-4, 1 year; 148-81-8 overall, 24 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/T2nd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Darry Brooks, LB, Jr.; Craig Davis, TE, Sr.; Daryl Garner, TB, Sr.; Nathaniel Harrison, QB, Soph.; Maurice Hurst, DB, Sr.; Chris Scott, LB, Sr.; Harvey Wilson, DB, Jr.

5. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

Coach: Haney Catchings (3-4 overall, 1 year).

1987 Record: 1-6/7th; 3-7-1 overall.

Key Returnees: Lynn Bradford, FB, Sr.; Vincent Huffpaw, DT, Sr.; Victor Pegram, HB, Jr.

6. ALABAMA STATE

Coach: Houston Markham (8-3, 1 year).

1987 Record: 4-3/4th; 8-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Brad Baxter, RB, Sr.; Gary Browe, CB, Sr.; Edwin Ross, S, Sr.

7. TEXAS SOUTHERN

Coach: Lionel Taylor (13-30-1, 4 years).

1987 Record: 3-4/6th; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: Kevin Harris, LB, Soph.; Davis Smith, WR/KR, Sr.; Brian Wiggins, WR, Jr.

8. MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE

Coach: Ken Pettiford (1-10, 1 year).

1987 Record: 0-7/8th; 1-10 overall.

Key Returnees: Clarence Alexander, WR, Jr.; Terry Coleman, RB, Sr.; Fred Franklin, WR/RB, Sr.; Tony Haggie, LB, Sr.; Donald Holt, OG, Jr.; Willie Lewis, DB, Sr.

Offensive Player of Year: Lewis Tillman, RB, Jackson State.

Defensive Player of Year: Kevin Dent, S, Jackson State.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

Tillman ready to pass Payton on Jackson State's rushing list

By CARL DUBOIS

Lake Charles (La.) American Press

Of all the stunning runs that contributed to Lewis Tillman's career total of 2,553 yards rushing at Jackson State, Tigers Coach W.C. Gorden recalls a play on which he gained a single yard as the greatest.

"Lewis seems to add that extra three or four yards after making contact with tacklers," Gorden said. "His best run, in my opinion, came last year against Southern Mississippi. He got hit four yards deep in the backfield and made a one-yard gain out of it. It sounds hard to believe, but it was the most exciting run I've ever seen."

That one yard out of 1,474 gained by Tillman on the ground in 1987 (including one Division I-AA playoff game) was only a small part of Jackson State's march to its third consecutive Southwestern Athletic Conference title and the sixth championship the Tigers have won outright or shared in this decade. Jackson State has won 18 straight SWAC contests dating to 1985, including a 7-0 run in 1986 without Tillman.

An elbow injury in the season opener cut Tillman's junior year short. Redshirt status won, he returned for his finest season a year ago, rushing for 100 yards or more eight times, including the last seven games of the year. He finished with 1,357 yards (123.4 per game) before the playoffs.

Tillman was named the SWAC Offensive Player of the Year and was a finalist for the Walter Payton Award, a Division I-AA Heisman of sorts.

"I have always tried to divert the comparisons between Lewis and Walter," said Gorden, the Tigers' defensive coordinator during Payton's playing days at Jackson State. "But the comparison is even more intense now than when he first came here. He gives a maximum effort like Payton, but unlike Walter, he is not extremely knowledgeable about running. He has the knack to attack the defender, but he's just beginning to learn how to read daylight and how to use his blockers. Walter was a natural with those things."

Tillman caught 19 passes for 146 yards and three touchdowns in 1985, but last season he caught just one pass for 11 yards. A shoulder separation sustained against Prairie View A&M in the second game of the year slowed that aspect of Tillman's game, which Gorden said needs the most work.

"He has a good concept of reading coverages and running routes, but his hands are less than desirable right now," Gorden said. "We worked on his pass-catching only in spring training—he sat out contact work to recover from surgery on that shoulder."

The 6-foot, 195-pound Tillman hardly blinked when a Prairie View tackler



Jackson State running back Lewis Tillman is ready to thrust himself onto the national scene.

buried his helmet into Tillman's left shoulder. In fact, he seemed to suffer more when he was forced to miss spring contact drills.

"I miss that part of the game," Tillman said. "I miss the contact, the training, the sore muscles you get after practice, the feeling of the whirlpool on your body after all the pounding on the field."

It didn't surprise Gorden that Tillman played with the injury last year.

"This is his paradise, all the hitting out on the turf," he said. "He's addicted to it. I really think. He minimizes his injuries. He masks them and hides them because he wants to go. He has no fear about pain."

With one year remaining, Tillman is ready to thrust himself onto the national scene. His 1987 performance broke Payton's single-season rushing record of 1,139 yards, and Tillman needs 1,011 yards to replace Payton as the school's all-time leading rusher.

"I think Tillman can only get better," Gorden said. "He has many of the attributes of Payton. Neither has the blazing speed (Tillman runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds), but they both attack the defender. Tillman is like the musician that never played a bad note—he's never made a bad run. He's had to work hard to develop. . . . I think the entire country will find out just how great Lewis Tillman is when all his hard work brings fruit this fall."

Tillman has handled the pressure at Payton's place well enough so far. If he can create memories with one-yard gains, the thousands of yards yet to come should be filled with Sweetness. ■

Air-delivery football throws Yankee observers for a loop

By PHIL CHARDIS
Manchester Journal Inquirer

Whatever happened to New England's staid tradition? Where's that unyielding conservatism that's as solid as Plymouth Rock?

There was a time when Yankee Conference football was as innovative as the horse and buggy. Run the tailback three times, punt and let the defense handle the rest.

Not anymore. The conference has moved into modern times. From Orono, Me., to Richmond, Va., darned if they aren't putting the ball in the air more often than not.

Maybe it's those outside influences at work. Two years ago, the league admitted Delaware and Richmond, each with a strong-armed quarterback. This season, Villanova comes aboard with a high-powered air attack piloted by junior quarterback Kirk Schulz. Are the newcomers at fault for tearing down those old-fashioned New England barriers?

Nah, the Yankee regulars have only themselves to blame.

"When I came into the league (1976), we were pretty much a tailback conference," said Rhode Island Coach Bob Griffin, the man who may have started the trend. "We resisted that. I think other than just one season, maybe in 1981, we have just let it go."

Griffin's Rams took the idea to new heights with the arrival of record-setting quarterback Tom Ehrhardt. Since his graduation two years ago, the Rams have struggled, falling to a lowly 1-10 last season.

"I created a monster," Griffin said with a smile, "and now I can't keep up."

The Yankee Conference of yesteryear never seemed to lack for 1,000-yard runners. Boston University, in particular, was very proficient at cramming the ball down the other team's throat.

Instead of handing the ball off down after down, however, Yankee quarterbacks these days are throwing it, making offenses much more exciting for fans as well as players.

Last season, the Yankee's top offensive player was Maine quarterback Mike Buck. And the league's top rookie was Connecticut quarterback Matt DeGennaro. Almost all the successful teams in the conference had a throwing quarterback.

The lone exception was Richmond, which had lost quarterback Bob Bleier after the '86 season. No Spider passed for as many as 900 yards, but the team still recorded a 6-1 league record and earned a trip to the Division I-AA playoffs.

The other pennant contenders were built around the passing game, and all of them have several key players returning in 1988.

Maine's Buck enjoyed a big sophomore season, connecting on more than 55 percent of his regular-season passes for 2,758 yards and 22 touchdowns. He guided the Black Bears to an at-large berth in the I-AA playoffs, a first for Maine.

Before Buddy Teevens took over Maine's coaching duties in 1985 and installed a passing attack, the Bears had managed just two winning seasons in 15 years. In two years under Teevens and one under Tim Murphy, Maine has gone 21-13.

"We decided at Maine that we weren't going to get it done pounding the football at people," said Murphy, who was Teevens' assistant. "We figured we'd have to be extremely multiple in our approach. There's not that much difference in the talent level in the league. If we had just run the football, we couldn't have been successful. It's more fun to coach this way. It's pro-oriented. It's more exciting for the kids, and the people up here love to watch it."

Connecticut rode DeGennaro's arm to within a whisker of the Yankee title, defeating Richmond and bowing to Maine in the closing minutes. As a freshman, DeGennaro hit an amazing 60.5 percent of his passes, good for 2,206 yards and 18 touchdowns. The Huskies have now recorded back-to-back winning records for the first time since 1959-60, and the pass has been their weapon.

"There are a couple of reasons why the whole league has become more of a passing league," Connecticut Coach Tom Jackson said. "First, since the blocking rules have changed, it's a lot easier to teach pass-blocking now. Second, there are more of those quarterback-receiver types of players to recruit than those huge linemen you need to run the ball. Third, I think we're all copycats and we're copying the pro game. It always takes us a couple of years to catch up."

New Hampshire Coach Bill Bowes has one of the league's best quarterbacks in senior Bob Jean, who fired for 2,134 yards and 15 touchdowns last year while completing 54.8 percent of his attempts. The Wildcats were successful (7-3 overall) but Bowes isn't convinced the passing game will dominate from now on.

"It might just be a cycle we're in, where we have a lot of good quarterbacks in the league at once," Bowes said. "I think you fit your team into an offense that suits your personnel. When Jean graduates, I don't know if we'll be able to put it up as much."

But there are certain advantages to the passing game that even an old-fashioned coach like Bowes has to admit.

"I'll tell you one thing," he said. "We get in the end zone a heck of a lot faster this way."

And more often. But that's the whole idea, isn't it? ■



TSN's PREDICTIONS

1. VILLANOVA

Coach: Andy Talley (18-5, 3 years; 46-23-1 overall, 8 years).

1987 Record: Ineligible for conference title; 6-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Robert Brady, WR, Jr.; Bill Buckley, LB, Sr.; Jim Cashman, TE, Sr.; Greg Downs, FL, Jr.; John Karoly, TB, Jr.; Peter Lombardi, FB, Sr.; John O'Brien, LB, Sr.; Gary Pascoe, FB, Sr.; Kirk Schulz, QB, Jr.; Ron Sency, TB, Sr.

2. NEW HAMPSHIRE

Coach: Bill Bowes (102-59-3, 16 years).

1987 Record: 4-3/4th; 7-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Tim Byrne, CB, Sr.; Norm Ford, TB, Jr.; Basil Jarostchuk, DE, Jr.; Bob Jean, QB, Sr.; Ryan Jones, CB, Soph.; Curtis Olds, WR, Jr.

3. CONNECTICUT

Coach: Tom Jackson (27-26, 5 years).

1987 Record: 5-2/3rd; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Glenn Antrum, SE, Sr.; Troy Ashley, LB, Jr.; George Boothe, TB, Jr.; Jim Carriere, P, Sr.; Matt DeGennaro, QB, Soph.; David Dudley, LB, Sr.; Jeff Gallaher, TB, Sr.; Stuart Milberg, OT, Jr.; Dwayne Miller, S, Sr.; Andy Scott, DE, Sr.; Scott Sudora, DT, Sr.

4. DELAWARE

Coach: Tubby Raymond (182-69-2, 22 years).

1987 Record: 2-5/15th; 5-6 overall.

Key Returnees: James Anderson, WR, Sr.; David Buchanan, OG, Jr.; Todd Eller, LB, Soph.; Paul Felker, DT, Sr.; Tim Healy, FB, Sr.; Gil Knight, HB, Jr.; John Levelis, DE, Jr.; Mike Miller, DT, Sr.; Don O'Brien, K, Sr.; Mike Renna, DE, Jr.

5. MASSACHUSETTS

Coach: Jim Reid (11-11, 2 years).

1987 Record: 2-5/15th; 3-8 overall.

Key Returnees: Mike Barrette, OT, Sr.; Tim Bryant, QB, Jr.; Drew Comeau, LB, Jr.; Joe Cullen, NG, Jr.; Paul Mayberry, OG, Soph.; John McKeown, LB, Sr.; Dave Palazzi, QB, Sr.; Mike Trifari, FL, Sr.

6. RICHMOND

Coach: Dal Shealy (39-50, 8 years; 74-67 overall, 13 years).

1987 Record: 6-1/11st; 7-4 overall.

Key Returnees: Pat Brown, LB, Sr.; Tom Coles, DT, Jr.; Howard Fahnestock, OT, Sr.; Brian Jordan, CB, Jr.; Erwin Matthews, RB, Sr.

7. MAINE

Coach: Tim Murphy (8-4, 1 year).

1987 Record: 6-1/11st; 8-3 overall.

Key Returnees: Mike Buck, QB, Jr.; Doug Dorsey, TB, Jr.; Scott Hough, OT, Jr.; Nick Penna, LB, Sr.; Steve Roth, WR, Jr.; Scott Nason, DT, Sr.

8. RHODE ISLAND

Coach: Bob Griffin (60-71-1, 12 years; 81-91-1 overall, 15 years).

1987 Record: 1-6/8th; 1-10 overall.

Key Returnees: Greg Benjamin, DT, Jr.; John Gilman, NG, Soph.; Chris Poirier, TB, Jr.; Kevin Smith, CB, Soph.

9. BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Coach: Chris Palmer (first year at Boston University; 16-4 overall, 2 years).

1987 Record: 2-5/15th; 3-8 overall.

Key Returnees: Skip Jackson, DB, Sr.; Steve Jones, P, Sr.; Mark Seals, DB, Sr.

Offensive Player of Year: Kirk Schulz, QB, Villanova.

Defensive Player of Year: John McKeown, LB, Massachusetts.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

1. NICHOLLS STATE

Coach: Phil Greco (5-5-1, 1 year).
1987 Record: 5-5-1.
Key Returnees: Richard Glover, DT, Sr.; Karl Hill, DB, Sr.; Bobby McDonald, QB, Sr.; Richard Romero, LB, Sr.

2. WESTERN KENTUCKY

Coach: Dave Roberts (17-26-1, 4 years).
1987 Record: 7-3.
Key Returnees: Joe Arnold, TB, Sr.; Tony Brown, FB, Jr.; Ron Burroughs, CB, Sr.; Mike Carberry, LB, Sr.

3. ARKANSAS STATE

Coach: Larry Lacewell (59-46-4, 9 years).
1987 Record: 7-3-1.
Key Returnees: Fred Barnett, SE, Jr.; Kenneth Nelson, OT, Jr.; Tony Walton, OG, Jr.

4. GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Coach: Erk Russell (56-19-1, 6 years).
1987 Record: 8-3.
Key Returnees: David Cool, K, Fr.; James Carter, LB, Jr.; Dennis Franklin, C, Sr.; Joe Ross, FB, Soph.

5. JAMES MADISON

Coach: Joe Purzycki (19-14-1, 3 years; 40-35-2 overall, 7 years).
1987 Record: 9-2.
Key Returnees: Steve Bates, DT, Jr.; Rob Howard, C, Jr.; Dan Kobosko, LB, Sr.; Greg Medley, FB, Jr.; Shawn Woodson, LB, Sr.

6. WILLIAM & MARY

Coach: Jimmie Laycock (43-46, 8 years).
1987 Record: 5-6.
Key Returnees: Steve Christie, K/P, Jr.; Kerry Gray, LB, Sr.; Harry Mehre, FL, Sr.

7. YOUNGSTOWN STATE

Coach: Jim Tressie (10-13, 2 years).
1987 Record: 8-3.
Key Returnees: Lloyd Hopkins, WR, Jr.; J.C. Penny, RB, Sr.; Paul Soltis, LB, Sr.

8. LOUISIANA TECH

Coach: Joe Peace (first year at Louisiana Tech).
1987 Record: 3-8.
Key Returnees: Eldonta Osborne, LB, Jr.; Glenell Sanders, LB, Jr.

9. TOWSON STATE

Coach: Phil Albert (107-59-3, 16 years).
1987 Record: 4-6.
Key Returnees: Chris Goetz, QB, Soph.; Bryant Hall, DB, Sr.; Dave Meggett, TB, Sr.; Rodney Smith, NG, Jr.

10. LAMAR

Coach: Ray Alborn (5-17, 2 years; 18-70 overall, 8 years).
1987 Record: 3-8.
Key Returnees: Derek Anderson, WR, Sr.; Stephen Lee, C, Sr.; Troy Mack, S, Sr.; Shad Smith, QB, Sr.

11. NORTHEASTERN

Coach: Paul Pawlak (27-42-1, 7 years; 41-61-1 overall, 11 years).
1987 Record: 6-5.
Key Returnees: Malcolm Halith, S, Sr.; Mike McElhenry, OT, Sr.

Offensive Player of Year: Harry Mehre, FL, William & Mary.

Defensive Player of Year: Paul Soltis, LB, Youngstown State.

Key to abbreviations on page 175

Nomadic Brown finally finds a home at Western Kentucky

By GENE McLEAN
Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader

Tony Brown got this funny feeling when he was going through drills with the Western Kentucky football team last spring. It was like an itch, a restless urge to pack his bags and hit the road—to somewhere, anywhere.

"I have to admit it," Brown said. "But I did feel a little funny. It was kind of strange not to be moving somewhere. It was the first spring that I haven't been looking for another school to go to."

"This is the first time since high school that I was playing on the same team for two years in a row. The first time."

You can unpack the bags. The "Samsonite Man" has found a home—finally. Tony Brown, who was a star at Texas-Arlington before it dropped football and then played at Southern Methodist before it had to drop the sport, is on the verge of setting a personal endurance record. He's getting ready for his second straight year with the Hilltoppers, a team that made the Division I-AA playoffs for the first time in 1987.

"It feels good," Brown said. "This is what I've been looking for for a long time. I guess you can say my college career has been a bit bizarre. I never dreamed that anything like this would have happened. Not to me."

"I'm rather low-key. But it does feel good to be back at the same place. I'm looking forward to my senior season. I'm gearing up. For the first time, I don't have to come in and learn all over again."

People have been looking for big things from Brown, a 6-foot-2, 225-pounder, ever since he pounded onto the college scene four years ago at Texas-Arlington. He won a starting job on opening day and then, despite playing with a tender ankle that he had broken in high school in Dennison, Tex., he raced for 638 yards and five touchdowns on just 147 carries.

"My freshman year was really unreal," he said. "I never expected anything like that. Everything just kind of fell into place. After a while, I was the center of the offense. I played some fullback when they needed it. I played tailback when they needed me there. I got the ball a bunch. It was like a dream come true."

But wonderland turned into reality. Texas-Arlington dropped football after the 1985 season and Brown went hunting for a school. He found SMU.

"I couldn't believe it when Arlington dropped football," he said. "It was a shock. But then there was SMU, and that was like a dream. I jumped when they offered me a scholarship. I always dreamed of being part of the Pony Express."

For a season, he was. He played in 11 games in 1986. After getting off to a good start, he was injured again. Still, he finished with 213 yards on 50 carries and one



Western Kentucky tailback Tony Brown has set some high goals for the coming season.

touchdown. His long run was 31 yards.

But wonderland II turned into reality, too. After the 1986 season and yet another NCAA investigation, SMU became the first school to get the "death penalty" from the NCAA for various rules violations. Football got the electric chair and Brown got another shock.

"We all heard about the investigation during the season, but we really didn't think that much would happen," he said. "When they told us that they were going to kill the program, it was the biggest surprise. For a second, I was beginning to think I was a jinx."

So Brown went hunting—again. This time, after also visiting Arizona State, he picked Western Kentucky. But Brown didn't have the best of years in 1987—not like the transfer from SMU was expected to have. And when he severely sprained his ankle in a game against Georgia Southern, his season was finished. He had played in just five games, running for 302 yards on 63 carries and hadn't even scored a touchdown.

"I was disappointed," Brown said. "I wanted to do more. I wanted to give the team more. Plus, I felt some pressure, being from SMU. I guess it just wasn't meant to be."

But this season might just change all that. Brown is back at Western Kentucky and appears to be in top shape.

"I do have some high goals set for my last year," he said. "I would love to rush for 1,000 yards. I would love to score more than 10 touchdowns. Most of all, though, I want to win."

"We grew up a lot last year. We made the playoffs. We know what it takes now. I think we only scratched the surface of our potential, though. This can be a good team. And I feel more a part of it."

AWARD WINNERS

HEISMAN TROPHY

Year	Player, College, Pos.	Year	Player, College, Pos.
1935	Jay Berwanger, Chicago, HB	1962	Terry Baker, Oregon St., QB
1936	Larry Kelley, Yale, E	1963	Roger Staubach, Navy, QB*
1937	Clint Frank, Yale, HB	1964	John Huarte, Notre Dame, QB
1938	Davey O'Brien, TCU, QB	1965	Mike Garrett, Southern Cal, HB
1939	Nile Kinnick, Iowa, HB	1966	Steve Spurrier, Florida, QB
1940	Tom Harmon, Michigan, HB	1967	Gary Beban, UCLA, QB
1941	Bruce Smith, Minnesota, HB	1968	O.J. Simpson, Southern Cal, HB
1942	Frank Sinkwich, Georgia, HB	1969	Steve Owens, Oklahoma, HB
1943	Angelo Bertelli, Notre Dame, QB	1970	Jim Plunkett, Stanford, QB
1944	Les Horvath, Ohio State, QB	1971	Pat Sullivan, Auburn, QB
1945	Doc Blanchard, Army, FB*	1972	Johnny Rodgers, Nebraska, FL
1946	Glenn Davis, Army, HB	1973	John Cappelletti, Penn State, HB
1947	John Lujack, Notre Dame, QB	1974	Archie Griffin, Ohio State, HB*
1948	Doak Walker, SMU, HB*	1975	Archie Griffin, Ohio State, HB
1949	Leon Hart, Notre Dame, E	1976	Tony Dorsett, Pittsburgh, HB
1950	Vic Janowicz, Ohio State, HB*	1977	Earl Campbell, Texas, HB
1951	Dick Kazmaier, Princeton, HB	1978	Billy Sims, Oklahoma, HB*
1952	Billy Vessels, Oklahoma, HB	1979	Charles White, Southern Cal, HB
1953	John Lattner, Notre Dame, HB	1980	George Rogers, South Caro., HB
1954	Alan Ameche, Wisconsin, FB	1981	Marcus Allen, Southern Cal, HB
1955	Howard Cassady, Ohio State, HB	1982	Herschel Walker, Georgia, HB*
1956	Paul Hornung, Notre Dame, QB	1983	Mike Rozier, Nebraska, HB
1957	John Crow, Texas A&M, HB	1984	Doug Flutie, Boston College, QB
1958	Pete Dawkins, Army, HB	1985	Bo Jackson, Auburn, HB
1959	Billy Cannon, LSU, HB	1986	Vinny Testaverde, Miami (Fla.), QB
1960	Joe Bellino, Navy, HB	1987	Tim Brown, Notre Dame, FL
1961	Ernie Davis, Syracuse, HB		

OUTLAND TROPHY

Year	Player, College, Pos.	Year	Player, College, Pos.
1946	George Connor, Notre Dame, T	1967	Ron Yary, Southern Cal, T
1947	Joe Steffy, Army, G	1968	Bill Stanfill, Georgia, T
1948	Bill Fischer, Notre Dame, G	1969	Mike Reid, Penn State, DT
1949	Ed Bagdon, Michigan St., G	1970	Jim Stillwagon, Ohio State, MG
1950	Bob Gain, Kentucky, T	1971	Larry Jacobson, Nebraska, DT
1951	Jim Weatherall, Oklahoma, T	1972	Rich Glover, Nebraska, MG
1952	Dick Modzelewski, Maryland, T	1973	John Hicks, Ohio State, OT
1953	J.D. Roberts, Oklahoma, G	1974	Randy White, Maryland, DE
1954	Bill Brooks, Arkansas, G	1975	Lee Roy Selmon, Oklahoma, DT
1955	Calvin Jones, Iowa, G	1976	Ross Browner, Notre Dame, DE*
1956	Jim Parker, Ohio State, G	1977	Brad Shearer, Texas, DT
1957	Alex Karras, Iowa, T	1978	Greg Roberts, Oklahoma, G
1958	Zeke Smith, Auburn, G	1979	Jim Ritcher, N.C. State, C
1959	Mike McGee, Duke, T	1980	Mark May, Pittsburgh, OT
1960	Tom Brown, Minnesota, G	1981	Dave Rimington, Nebraska, C*
1961	Merlin Olsen, Utah State, T	1982	Dave Rimington, Nebraska, C
1962	Bobby Bell, Minnesota, T	1983	Dean Steinkuhler, Nebraska, G
1963	Scott Appleton, Texas, T	1984	Bruce Smith, Virginia Tech, DT
1964	Steve DeLong, Tennessee, T	1985	Mike Ruth, Boston College, NG
1965	Tommy Nobis, Texas, G	1986	Jason Buck, Brigham Young, DT
1966	Lloyd Phillips, Arkansas, T	1987	Chad Hennings, Air Force, DT

*Juniors (all others seniors)

1987 FINAL RANKINGS

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15. South Carolina (tie)
16. Iowa (tie)
17. Southern California
18. Michigan
19. Texas
20. Indiana

1988 COLLEGE BOWL GAMES

	Site	Date
California Bowl.....	Fresno, Calif.	December 10
Independence Bowl.....	Shreveport, La.	December 10
Sun Bowl.....	El Paso, Tex.	December 24
Aloha Bowl.....	Honolulu, Haw.	December 25
Liberty Bowl.....	Memphis, Tenn.	December 28
All-American Bowl.....	Birmingham, Ala.	December 29
Freedom Bowl.....	Anaheim, Calif.	December 30
Hall of Fame Bowl.....	Tampa, Fla.	December 30
Holiday Bowl.....	San Diego, Calif.	December 30
Bluebonnet Bowl.....	Houston, Tex.	December 31
Peach Bowl.....	Atlanta, Ga.	December 31
Gator Bowl.....	Jacksonville, Fla.	January 1
Cotton Bowl.....	Dallas, Tex.	January 2
Fiesta Bowl.....	Tempe, Ariz.	January 2
Citrus Bowl.....	Orlando, Fla.	January 2
Orange Bowl.....	Miami, Fla.	January 2
Sugar Bowl.....	New Orleans, La.	January 2
Rose Bowl.....	Pasadena, Calif.	January 2

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Andy Bernstein (Troy Aikman/2, Rodney Peete/33).

John Biever (Ned Bolcar/gatefold).

Jim Brown (Eric Jones/36).

Rob Brown (Troy Aikman/16-17, Heisman Trophy/54).

Louis DeLuca (Barry Switzer/4, 12; Tom Osborne/5).

Tom DiPace (Louis Oliver-Deion Sanders/22, Sanders/24, Oliver/27 right).

Malcolm Emmons (Chuck Hartlieb/48).

Barry Fikes (Bobby Humphrey/28-29, Sammie Smith/gatefold).

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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

QB—quarterback
RB—running back
TB—tailback
HB—halfback
FB—fullback
IB—I-back
WB—wingback
WR—wide receiver
SE—split end
FL—flanker
TE—tight end
C—center
G—guard
T—tackle
OT—offensive tackle
DT—defensive tackle
OL—offensive lineman
DL—defensive lineman
E—end
DE—defensive end
NG—noseguard
MG—middle guard
NT—nose tackle
LB—linebacker
S—safety
CB—cornerback
DB—defensive back
St.—State
Sr.—senior
Jr.—junior
Soph.—sophomore
Fr.—freshman
JC—junior college
CC—community college
RS—sat out last season as a redshirt
JV—junior varsity player last season
Prop 48—failed to meet the academic requirements of Proposition 48 last year

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Year	AP Team	UPI Team	Year	AP Team	UPI Team
1936	Minnesota		1962	Southern Cal	Southern Cal
1937	Pittsburgh		1963	Texas	Texas
1938	Texas Christian		1964	Alabama	Alabama
1939	Texas A&M		1965	Alabama	Michigan State
1940	Minnesota		1966	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
1941	Minnesota		1967	Southern Cal	Southern Cal
1942	Ohio State		1968	Ohio State	Ohio State
1943	Notre Dame		1969	Texas	Texas
1944	Army		1970	Nebraska	Nebraska
1945	Army		1971	Nebraska	Nebraska
1946	Notre Dame		1972	Southern Cal	Southern Cal
1947	Notre Dame		1973	Notre Dame	Alabama
1948	Michigan		1974	Oklahoma	Southern Cal
1949	Notre Dame		1975	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
1950	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	1976	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh
1951	Tennessee	Tennessee	1977	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
1952	Michigan State	Michigan State	1978	Alabama	Southern Cal
1953	Maryland	Maryland	1979	Alabama	Alabama
1954	Ohio State	UCLA	1980	Georgia	Georgia
1955	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	1981	Clemson	Clemson
1956	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	1982	Penn State	Penn State
1957	Auburn	Ohio State	1983	Miami (Fla.)	Miami (Fla.)
1958	Louisiana State	Louisiana State	1984	Brigham Young	Brigham Young
1959	Syracuse	Syracuse	1985	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
1960	Minnesota	Minnesota	1986	Penn State	Penn State
1961	Alabama	Alabama	1987	Miami (Fla.)	Miami (Fla.)

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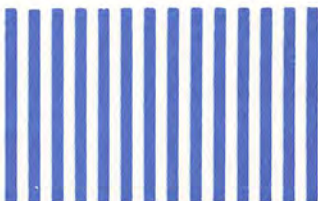
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